武芸十八般

平山行蔵
藤田西湖

The Eighteen Weapons of War

Fujita Seiko　Hirayama Gyozo

The Eighteen Weapons of War
A Brief Introduction

BY

FUJITA SEIKO

HIRAYAMA GYOZO

TRANSLATED BY

ERIC SHAHAN

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※ **other works translated by eric shahan** ※

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Introduction

The Bugei Jûhappan 武芸十八般, the Eighteen Martial Arts have heretofore been a common but strangely unexplored factor in Japanese martial arts history. This book changes that completely. In numerous Japanese Edo Era (1603-1868), also known as the Tokugawa Era, Meiji (1868-1911), Taisho (1912-1924), and early Show era (1924-1945) historical, martial arts and bushido related texts there are frequent casual references to the 'Eighteen Martial Arts' that the well-rounded samurai should master. Most often, there is simply the term, or sometimes a quick list of the names of the weapons or techniques included, or simply the name and the admonition that the true samurai should know these martial techniques.

But, there appears to be no evidence that any single Samurai ever mastered, or even attempted to master, the entire collection of the eighteen. Certainly in the tradition of the modern ninja schools (which in today's incarnation are actually a collection of a number of ancient martial arts schools), training occurs with a wide range of handheld weapons, but usually does not include arts such as swimming, archery, or horsemanship. The classic, ancient schools (Koryu) of Jujutsu typically used an array of weapons, and today's practitioners are expected to master a wide range, depending on the school. The oldest extant school, the Takeuchi Ryu, taught by the descendants of former Samurai rural farmers since 1532 uses weapons ranging from full battle spear, Naginata (halberd), Bo (long staff), Jo (middle staff), Hanbo (cudgel), Katana (Japanese longsword), Kodachi (short sword), a long knife (originally conceived as a broken long sword), Hananejiri (fist width short stick), and even household utensils such as pot lids and serving trays. But no extant school claims to teach each and every art.

Historically, the martial arts are simply listed, and just the names of the weapons or, in some examples, weaponless techniques such as swimming and Ninpo (covert movement, infiltration, and reconnaissance techniques). But there are actually several lists, varying substantially according to writer and era. The core arts of swordsmanship, spearmanship, and archery appear in nearly every list but while some of the weapons listed were commonly known in Japan in the Edo era, other weapon names come from an earlier age, and are evidently Chinese in origin, name, and use.

Some are improvised weapons - the Bo or staff (usually about 2 meters in length) techniques were originally to use a spear shaft as a melee weapon when one's spearhead is broken off, or shorter wooden cudgel techniques using any short stick at hand - while others are typically expensive devices produced with care, such as the traditional Japanese katana or the Jutte, the 'ten hands' metal truncheons famously carried by police authorities as both symbols of authority and brutally effective bludgeons.

The lists are also used in the Meiji, Taisho and early Showa era to bolster the samurai heritage claims of a range of martial arts. An example is Takeda Asajirô's "Judo Introduction: The Power of Life and Death", Osaka: Chubunkan, 1933, in which the author carefully cites the 18 Martial Arts and points out that jujutsu, the precursor art of Kano Jigoro Shihan's modern Judo, as one of the vital Eighteen Martial Arts, and hence worthy of practice. As different lists include almost every conceivable traditional Japanese martial art, such examples can be seen across an array of arts and era as proponents seek to ennoble their own particular art as a worthy embodiment of one of the Eighteen Martial Arts.

This use of the Eighteen Martial Arts to appeal to traditional 'Samurai' values was particularly prominent in the early days of the Meiji era when the practice of the traditional Japanese martial arts collapsed during the rush to adopt Western ways and customs, and later in the modernization of the Taisho and early Showa era, when Japan's militarists questioned the practical military value of weapons like battlefield flails in the era of machine guns, submarines, and dive bombers. The answer become a common response of the supporters of traditional Japanese martial arts: dedicated, austere practice (Shugyo) of the traditional martial arts build the body and mind in the martial spirit and foster the Japanese spirit (Yamato Damashii)and teach Bushido, the Way of the Warrior, which makes the student a useful subject of the Emperor. Thus the Eighteen Martial Arts were used to justify the practice of such ancient arts during the preparation for total war.

What Eric Shahan has done is unique - he methodically documents the Chinese origin of the Eighteen Martial Arts list, its introduction into Japan, a number of variations, and then documents every single art's weapon. This required delving into a number of ancient Japanese and Chinese texts. The challenges of reading and

translating such texts is difficult to overstate - the writing is difficult to even read, the 'Kanji' Chinese characters antiquated and often have not been used for over 100 years. Moreover, the very content, the use of these ancient weapons, is only revealed to a handful of martial arts cognoscenti, practitioners with decades of pertinent martial arts study. Eric is one of those few. The result is unique and very informative. There is no known prior work of this sort, and now, Eric has provided the ultimate reference for the Eighteen Martial Arts.

I congratulate Eric on the publication of this unique and valuable martial arts history resource, which I think will withstand the test of time, along with his other unique translations of Japanese martial classics.

December 2017
Lance Gatling

Director / Instructor, US Embassy Judo
Japanese Academy of Martial Arts
Tokyo, Japan

藤田 西湖　　Fujita Seiko　　1898 –1966

Fujita Seiko was a Japanese martial artist and martial arts researcher. He wrote numerous books about traditional Japanese martial arts and Ninjutsu.

平山行蔵　　Hirayama Gyozo　　(1759 – 1828)

Hirayama Gyozo was an influential martial arts instructor and author. Though he was relatively short he carried a rather large (115 centimeter) sword. Every morning he practiced spinning a 7 Shaku staff (210 centimeter) five hundred times. He then practiced sword drawing two to three hundred times with a four Shaku (120 centimeter) sword. Following that he would read while punching a wooden board to strengthen his fists. He slept on the floor of his room with no bedding. His living room contained dozens of spears, halberds, wooden swords as well as rifles, cannons, iron poles and sets of armor. His unkempt garden was quite famous as well. He authored works such as Kenkyo, the *Mysteries of the Sword.*

Translator's Introduction

My original plan was to present this book as is and not try to elaborate on or add anything. Invariably, I became curious and ended up doing the opposite, becoming obsessed with finding an example of every weapon mentioned. This task, while greatly aided by the availability of online libraries, still required me to sift through hundreds of pages of books on various schools of combat, manuals on forging weapons and arcane Chinese military manuals.

While I wasn't able to locate each weapon, I did my best to gather together enough to define each category. In fact I became a bit manic about it and probably went through about 10,000 pages of books, scrolls and manuscripts. One book on the history of forging weapons was about 800 pages long. (Not that I read every word, but still.) Therefore there are some illustrations from other sources. Illustrations that do not explicitly state otherwise were hand drawn by Fujita Seiko.

I have translated two other works by Fujita Seiko, *What is Ninjutsu* and a short monograph on the deity *Marishiten*. I have to say that I prefer the more clinical style he used in both *Marishiten* and *The Eighteen Weapons of War*. This work is more scholarly and more informative than the burying real knowledge about Ninjutsu amongst outrageous boasting and misdirection that was so prevalent in *What is Ninjutsu*.

This book is both dictionary and encyclopedia as well as a list of techniques and how they developed. By looking at Koryu demonstrations today we can just get a glimpse of some of the ways people fought long ago.

A note about the layout of the book:

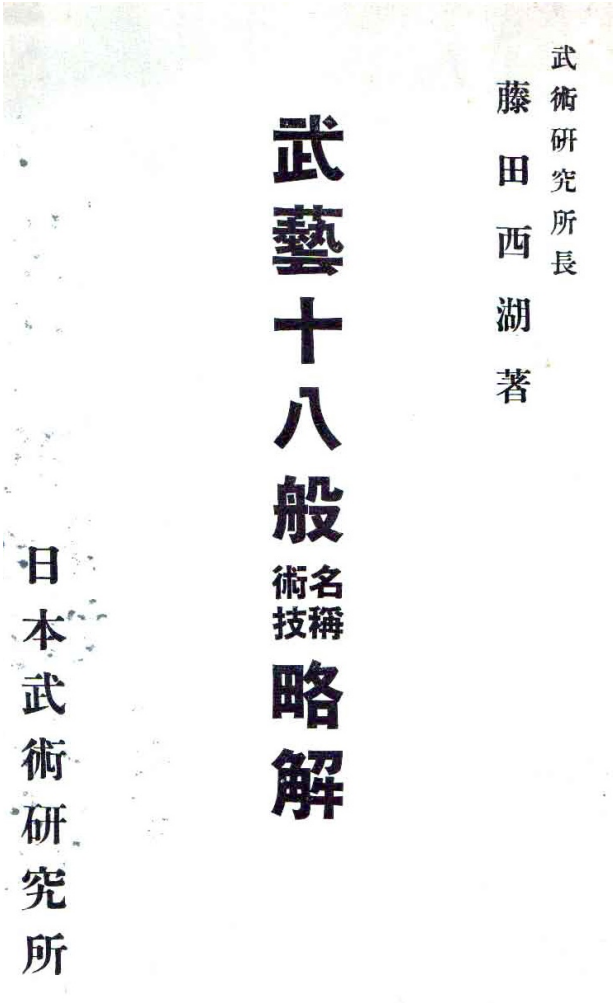
The whole book by Fujita Seiko is reprinted in order with translation, notes and additional images on the opposite page(s).

eric shahan
December 2017

藤田西湖著

武藝十八般名稱術技略解

日本武術研究所



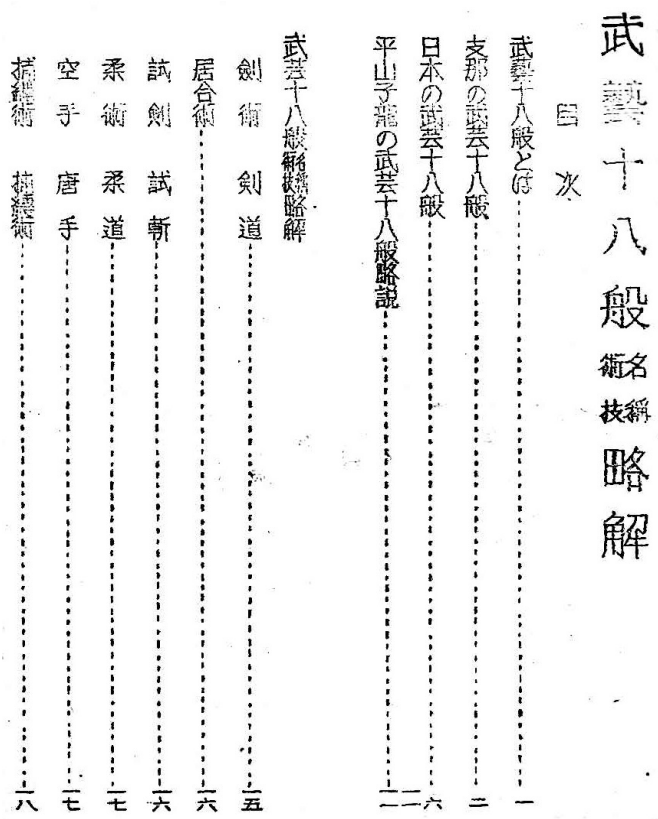
Written by the Head of The Martial Arts Research Center
Fujita Seiko
The Eighteen Weapons of War: A Brief Introduction

Japanese Martial Arts Research Center

本書は　武術研究者の為に　武芸十八般とは　如何なるものかを識らせる意味で書いたもので　術技を深く解説する為に書いたものでない　従つて　一般誰れでも識つてゐると思はれる武術には　敢へて蛇足的解説を加へず　只術名をあげ別名を附したにとゞまり　余り知られてないと思はれる術技には略解を加へた　又それ等術技には當然必要と思はれる武器の図も　本書にはこれを省いた　それは何れ武器具図鑑として　これを一冊にまとめ　それ等諸術は術技ごとにこれを一巻づゝにまとめて出す心算であるからである

The purpose of this book is to define the Bugei Juhappan, *The Eighteen Weapons of War*, for those doing research into martial arts. It is not intended to delve deeply into and analyze each of weapons and martial arts. Therefore I have not included superfluous technical explanations in this book in order to make it accessible to a general audience. The name of the techniques will be given along with any variant names. In the case of heretofore unheard of weapons or techniques I will offer a brief description. On the other hand, illustrations will not be included for weapons and techniques that are widely known. Thus I am able to make an illustrated catalogue of weapons in one book. I intend to release a book detailing each of these techniques at a later date.

Fujita Seiko


武藝十八般名術名技略解

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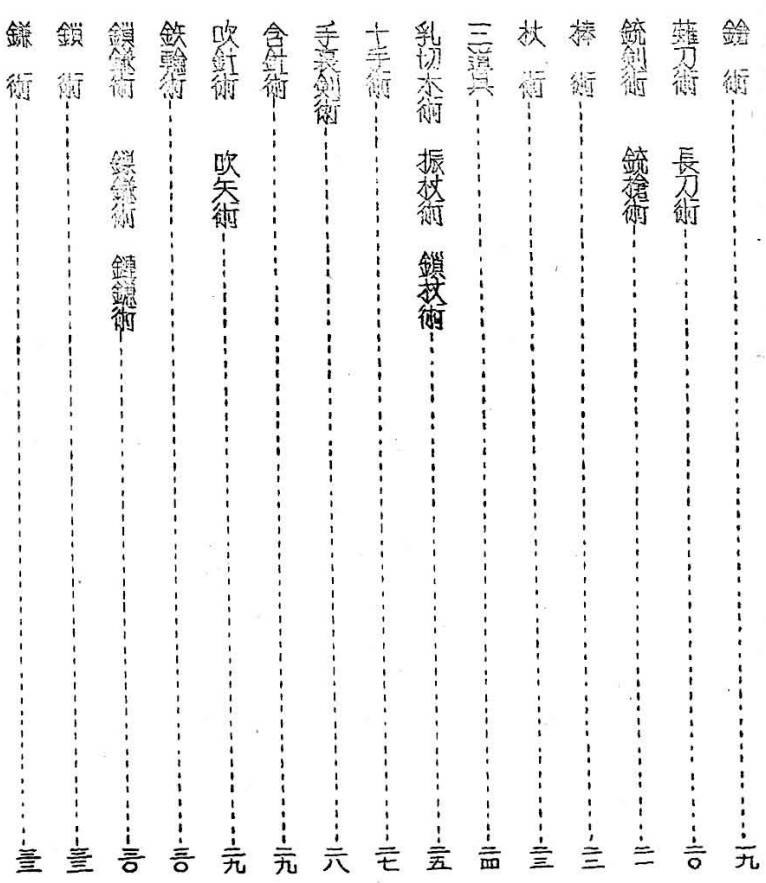

- Sojutsu - Yari
- Naginata - Halberd
- Bojutsu - Staff
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- Jutte Jutsu - Truncheon Techniques
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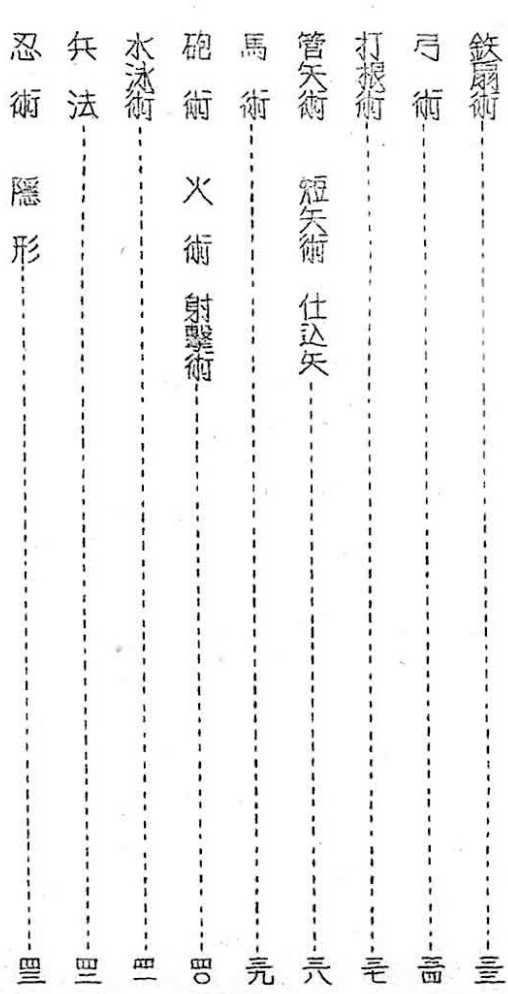

- Tessen Jutsu - Metal Fan Techniques
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- Heiho - Military Strategy
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武藝十八般 名稱 術技 略解

藤田西湖

武芸十八般と云ふ名稱は、武術全般と云ふ意味でつけられたもので、單に武術が十八種だけあると云ふ様な義ではない、その内容を見てもわかる様に、あらゆる武術をその使用する武器技術によって、これを十八種に分類し、題名としたもので、武は武器　芸は技術　十八はその分類数　般は領領つにも通じ　全般をわかつ　区分するの義で　武芸十八般とは　武術の全般をわけると十八種になると云ふ意義に解すべきである

武術を武芸十八般として最初に云ひ出したのは　明の謝肇淛と云ふ人で　其の著五雑組の巻の五　人事部に　武の技芸十八般あり　一に弓　二に弩　三に鎗　四に刀　五に劔　六に矛　七に盾　八に斧　九に鉞　十に戟　十一に鞭　十二に簡　十三に撾　十四に殳　十五に叉　十六に把頭　十七に綿縄套索　十八に白打　これな

The Eighteen Weapons of War: A Brief Introduction
Fujita Seiko

The term *Bugei Juhappan,* or *The Eighteen Weapons of War*, refers to all the weapons used in martial arts and does not mean there are only eighteen different methodologies. The term is used when talking about the eighteen types of weapons and techniques used in various martial arts. Breaking down the word Bugei Juhappan, the Bu stands for military weapons. The Gei stands for techniques. Juhachi is the number of categories. Pan means "kinds of" and can also be written with the Kajji 頒 meaning division. It is used here to indicate it covers all the categories. Understand that Bugei Juhappan means all eighteen varieties of weapons and techniques used in the arts of war.

The first person to use the term *The Eighteen Weapons of the Fighting Arts* was a man who lived in Ming Dynasty China by the name of Sha Cho Sei 謝肇淛 (In Chinese Xiè Zhào-zhè 1567-1624). In the fifth volume of Gozasso 五雜組 or *Five Scrapbooks of Detritus* under the section on Management of People we can find the Eighteen Weapons.

1. 弓 Yumi- Bow
2. 弩 Do/Oyumi- Crossbow
3. 鎗 Yari-Spear
4. 刀 Katana-Sword
5. 劍 Tsurugi- Double Edged Sword
6. 矛 Hoko/Hoko Yari- A halberd-spear
7. 盾 Tate- Shield
8. 斧 Ono- Axe
9. 鉞 Ono- Axe (A larger axe)
10. 戟 Geki/Hoko-Halberd
11. 鞭 Muchi- Whip
12. 鐧 Kan- Metal Truncheon
13. 撾 Utsu/Kan- Pole-Pick
14. 殳 Fu-Staff with spike on the end
15. 叉 Sasumata- Pole with trident or fork at the end
16. 耙 Ha- Rake
17. 綿繩套索 Kinju Tosaku- Restraining with Rope
18. 白打 Hakuda- Bare handed techniques

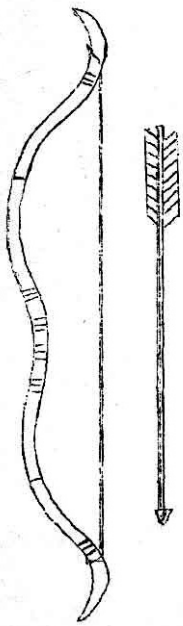
り　として著はしたのがはじめである

この武の技芸十八般は　昔の支那で支那の武器を使つて行つた武術を　十八般に
項目に領けて謂つたもので　純日本式武芸十八般とはいへないが　日本でも武術を
語るものゝうちにはこの武芸十八般の項目をそのまゝあげてゐるものもある　尤も
日本の武器武術の中には支那傳來のものも多くあるからそれでもよいであらう

それではこの謝肇淛の云つた武の技芸十八般（明の張九韶はその編著「群書拾唾
」中に　士の武芸十八事としてゐる）は　一体如何なるものか　日本の武芸十八般
を語る前に　先づその方から述べて見よう

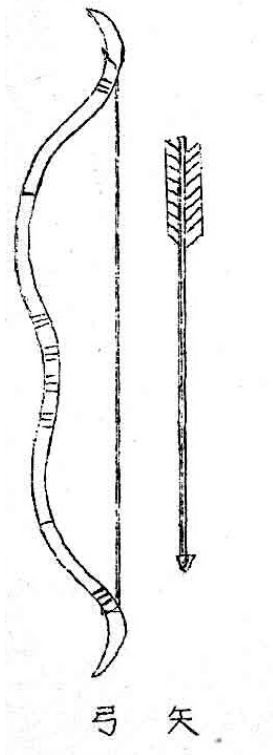
支那の武芸十八般（士の武芸十八事）の内容を字義解譯的に　日本の武器武術
にあてはめて見ると

一の弓は　弓は木や竹をため
て弦をはり　矢を
つがへて射る武
器　この弓を射る



These eighteen weapons, which includes both techniques and weapons, were developed long ago in China using Chinese weapons. All the various martial arts were divided up into eighteen different categories. While we cannot call *The Eighteen Weapons of War* purely Japanese, if you look at Japanese books and Japanese stories, you can more or less find all of these weapons and martial arts in our own history. As many of the weapons and techniques used in Japan have their origins in China, this list is applicable to Japan as well. However, before we delve into Japan's Eighteen Weapons of War, let us first look at *The Warrior's Eighteen Weapons of War* introduced by Sha Cho Sei/ Xie Zhao Zhe in his *Five Scrapbooks of Detritus* in 1661 and Zhang Jiu Shao 張九韶 in the book he edited Gunsho Shuda *Extraneous Droppings* 群書拾唾 in 1558. Jiu Shao Zhang called the eighteen weapons *The Eighteen Weapons of A Warrior* .

So now I will break down each of the characters that comprise the Chinese *Eighteen Weapons of War*/*The Eighteen Weapons of A Warrior* and describe the corresponding Japanese weapon or martial art.

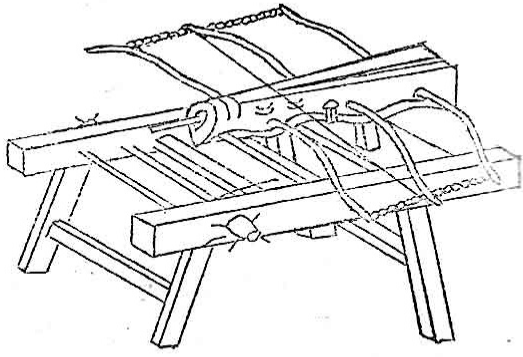


1. The Bow
Yumi

The bow is constructed either of bamboo or wood with a bowstring attached. An arrow is fired from the weapon. The techniques of firing a bow are known as Kyujutsu (archery) or Ijutsu (firing) in Japan.

技を　弓術　射術といふ

二の弩は　イシユミ　オホユミ　石や矢を
射る機械弓　火藥のない時代の
砲器　發碇　砲術



弩

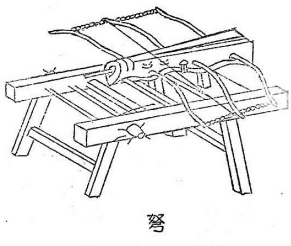
三の鎗は　敵を突き刺す武器　この武器を使ふ技を鎗術

四の刀は　カタナ　物を切りさくに用ひる刃物　この刀を用ひてたゝかふ技法を
刀法　刀術

五の劍は　ツルギ　タナ　腰に帶びる兵器　このつるぎを使ふ技や劍術　擊劍

六の矛は　ホコ　長い柄の頭に刃をつけた兵器　槍　薙刀の類　槍術　長刀術

2. The Crossbow
   Ishiyumi, Ooyumi


弩

A mechanical device to fire rocks or arrows. In an era before the invention of gunpowder, the crossbow was the only way a projectile could be launched. Also known as a Hoki (projectile launcher) or Hasseki (launcher). The art is called Hojutsu, projectile technique.

3. The Spear
   Yari

This weapon is used to stab people with a thrust. The techniques of the spear are known as Sojutsu.

4. The Sword
   Katana

This weapon is used to cut with its blade. The techniques that use the sword are called Toho (sword law) or Kenjutsu (sword techniques).

5. The Sword
   Tsurugi, Tachi

This is the weapon you wear on your hip. The techniques that use the Tsurugi are known as Kenjutsu (sword fighting) or Gekiken (fencing with wooden or bamboo swords).

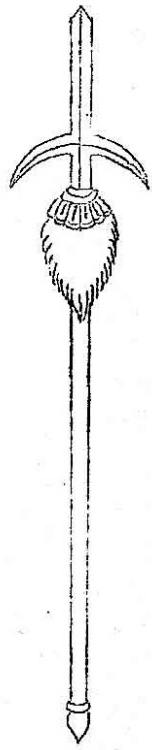
七の盾は　タテ　敵の弓矢を防ぐ武具

八の斧は　ヲノ　マサカリ　木を伐る具でもあり兵器でもある　昔　支那では刑具としてこの双物を用ひた

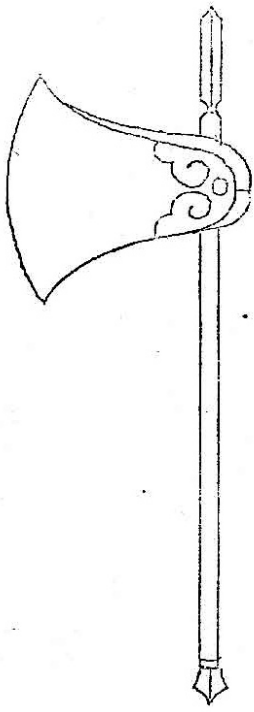
九の鉞は　マサカリ　おゝきな斧　古昔は征討の大將が天子から授かつたもの

十の戟は　ホコ　左右に枝の出てゐる柄の長い武器　手槍　十文字槍　両鎌槍の

鎗類

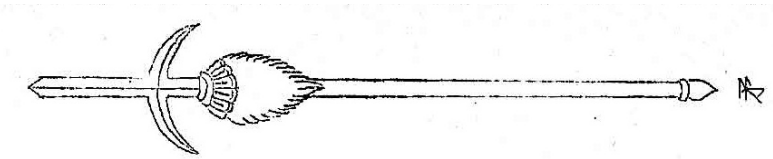


矛



鉞

6. The Halberd
   Hoko

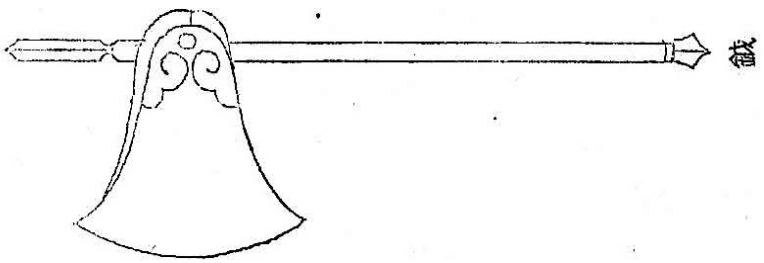


This weapon is a blade atop a long pole. It is related to another kind of halberd known as a Naginata as well as the spear. Therefore both spear techniques and Naginata techniques can be used with it.

7. The Shield
   Tate

A weapon used to defend against arrows being fired by the enemy.
Note: If you combine the Japanese words for Halberd and Shield you get the word with a completely unique reading *Mujun* which means contradiction.

8. The Axe
   Ono, Masakari



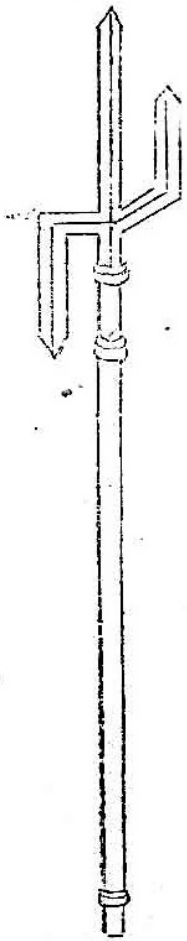
It is both a tool and a weapon. Used to cut down trees or on the field of battle. Long ago in China it was used to execute prisoners

9. The Great Axe
   Masakari

The Masakari is a large axe. In ancient times a king would give an axe to the commander of his forces as a symbol of authority. With it he possessed the authority to meet out punishment and grant rewards. He also had permission to kill.

十の戟は　ホコ　左右に枝の出てゐる柄の長い武器　手槍　十文字槍　両鎌槍の

鎗類



戟

十一の鞭は　ムチ　馬を打つて進ませる杖　罪人を責め打つ杖　この鞭を用ゐる技

馭術　馬術　又捶術

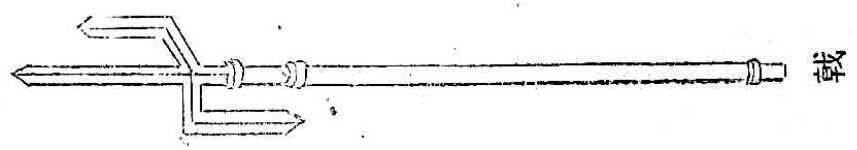
十二の簡は　フダ　昔　紙の無かつた時代は文字をしるすに札を用ゐた　後紙が出

来てからも札類を簡と云つた　その簡を鉄で造つたもの鉄簡　卦算（けさん）の類

を使ふ武技　鉄扇術等はこれに類す

10. Halberd-Spear
Hoko

A Halberd-Spear is a long pole-arm weapon that has two branches extending out to the sides. Techigai Yari (Reverse-blade spear. Image below), Juji Yari (Spear with blade like a cross), Ryo Kama Yari (Spear with a sickle on each side) and other such spear variations exist.



11. Whip or Riding Crop
Muchi

The Riding Crop is a short stick used to strike your horse in order to spur it on. It is also the stick used to punish criminals. It is utilized in Seijutsu (Chariot Racing), Bajutsu (Equestrian Arts) as well as in Bojutsu (Staff Fighting).

12. Bamboo Slats
Fuda

Long ago before paper was invented characters were written on strips of bamboo called Fuda. After paper was invented all the different sizes of bamboo slats began to be called "tags." By forging strips of metal in the same shape as these bamboo slats, or tags, you end up with a weapon called a Tesu-Fuda, a steel bamboo slat.

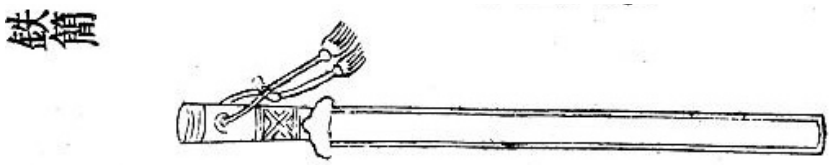
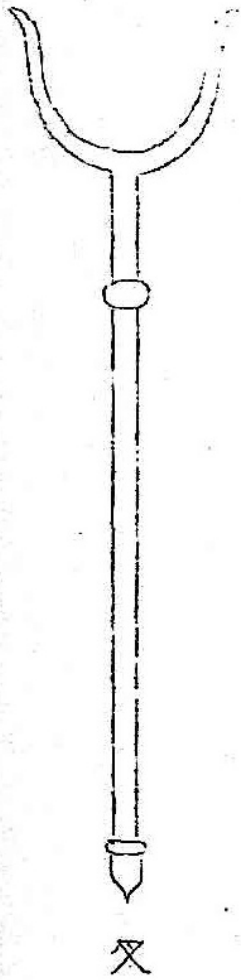


Image of a Tetsu-Fuda from the Chinese book *The Complete Collection of Essential Military Classics* written in the year 1044 (not in Fujita's book.)

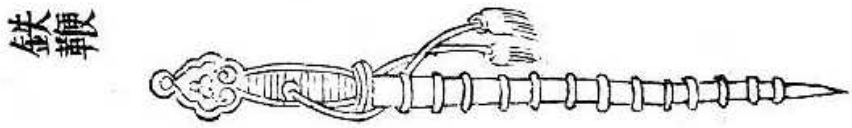
十三の槌は　ムチ　くだ　鉄で造つた槌（ムチ）鉄棒　十手の様なもの
十四の叉は　ホコ　長さ一丈二尺あり　矛の形をして双のない棒　突棒の類
十五の叉は　さすまた　敵の頸部を捉する兵器　刺股



叉

13. Truncheon
Muchi, Kuda

This weapon is known in Japanese as Muchi or Kuda. The weapon is known as a Muchi (whip) because it is basically a whip made of iron. Also known as a steel rod. It is similar to the Jutte, the truncheon carried by police. Image of a Tetsu-Muchi from the Chinese book *The Complete Collection of Essential Military Classics* (not in Fujita's book.)

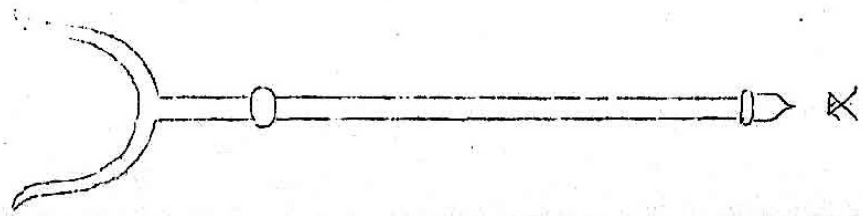


14. Club Spear
Hoko

Approximately 3.6 meters in length, this is a pole-arm with a spike on the end. It can be used to stab or to strike like a club.

15. Arresting Pole
Sasumata

A weapon used to hold the opponent by the neck. Sasumata is also written with the Kanji 刺股 Stab-Waist, implying a pole used to hold the waist.

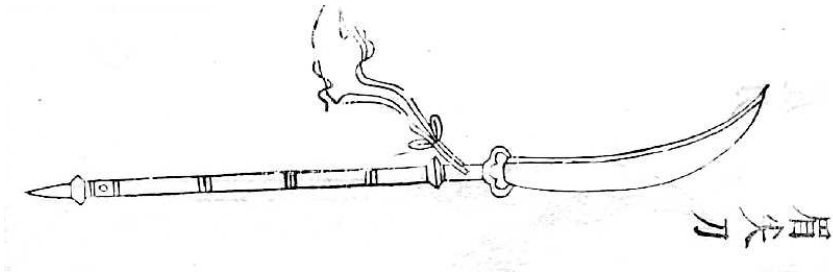


十六の把頭は　柄頭を握る武器　眉尖刀　青龍刀の類
十七の綿繩套索は　布や繩でおゝい縛す　捕繩術　捕縛術
十八の白打は　拳を打ち合す武　拳法　拳術

となる　武器も還ひ名稱も違ふので　多少解説に相違する處もあると思ふが　それは讀者の正誤に委す

16. Grasping Head
Hato/Tsukagashira

Any weapon that is held with one hand on the Tsukagashira, the pommel, when used. A type of Bisento (Large halberd with eyebrow shaped blade) or Seiryuken (a kind of large halberd.)
Note: Below is an image of a Bisento. Note: This term is typically described as a pole-arm with a rake at the end. Originally a farming tool, it was later adapted for battle.



17. Arresting Techniques
Kinju Tosaku

Using cloth or silk rope to restrain a person. Known in Japan as Hojo Jutsu (Restraining Techniques) or Hobaku Jutsu (Tying and Arresting Techniques).

18. Unarmed Combat
Hakuda

Fighting with the bare hands, including throws, locks and kicks. Known as Kenpo (Fisticuffs) and Kenjutsu (Boxing) in Japanese.

As you are no doubt aware the weapons as well as their names are different and the explanation may not seem to match. However I have done my best to be accurate and the correctness or incorrectness of it is entirely mine.

Fujita Seiko

次に　日本の武芸十八般であるが　これをよく検討して見ると　日本で武芸十八般なる言葉が云ひ出されたのは　萬治　寛文以后のことで　それ以前ではない様である　云ふなれは　明末期の人　張九韶　仝じく謝肇淛の著書渡來以降のことである

支那で武術が最も盛んに行はれたのは　明の時代で　我が後村上天皇正平二十三年（配元一三〇六二八年）の頃から　後西院天皇寛文二年（配元一六六二年）に至る二百九十四年の間で　張も謝も仝時代の人であるが　張九韶はその編著「群書拾唾」の中に　士の武芸十八事として書き　謝肇淛はその著「五雑俎」に　武の技芸十八般として書いた　そしてそれ等の著書は前後して日本に傳はり　群書拾唾は萬治元

Next I would like to look at the Japanese Eighteen Weapons of War. I spent a great deal of time researching this and found that the first use of the phrase Bugei Juhappan in Japan was in the Manji and Kanbun Eras. This period is from 1658 to 1673. I was unable to find the words used before that. The name Bugei Juhappan first appears in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) books by Zhang Jiu Shao and Xie Zhao Zhe which were imported to Japan around that time.

The end of the Ming Dynasty was the peak of the development of martial arts. This corresponds to the twenty third year of the Murakami Emperor. (If counting from when the Jinmu Emperor took the throne, then the year 2028. By the western calendar the year is 1368). It ended in the second year of the Gosai Emperor. (If counting from the Jinmu Emperor this was in the year 2322. For the western calendar it is 1622.) Both Zhang and Xie lived in this period, which lasted for 194 years. Zhang wrote about *The Eighteen Weapons of A Warrior* in his book *Extraneous Droppings.* Xie called the divisions *The Warrior's Eighteen Weapons of War* in his *Five Scrapbooks of Detritus.*

These two authors were introduced to Japan roughly at the same time. *Extraneous Droppings* was introduced in the first year of Manji (1658) and the *Five Scrapbooks of Detritus* was published in Japan in the first year of Kanbun (1661.)

年　五雑俎は寛文元年に　日本に於て復刻刊行されてゐる

その士の武芸十八事　武の技芸十八般に倣つて出來たのが日本の武芸十八般である　けれども日本の武芸十八般はそれを謂ふ人々によつて　名稱項目にも多少相違あり一様でない　或る者は十四事とし　或る者は十八般とし　又或る者は十八般に更に十般を附加して二十八般としてゐるものもある　今それを列記して見ると

貝原益軒は　元禄項の其著「和漢名數續編」武備の篇に　日本の武芸十四事として　射　騎　棒　刀　抜刀　撃剣　眉尖刀　鎌　鎗　鳥銃　発碇　火箭　捕縛　拳の十四項目をあげてゐるが　今じ貝原益軒でも　武訓　上巻には武芸十四事とは云はず　たゞ　武技は　弓　馬　刀　鎗　抜刀　眉尖刀　撃剣　鎌　棒　捕縛　拳法　騎射　鳥銃　水練　ありとして十四項目をあげてゐる

文化　文政の一時武術が盛んに行なはれた頃刊行された武術書中の武芸十八般には　弓　馬　刀　槍　薙刀　銃砲　鎖鎌　銃鏡　騎射　柔術　隠形　鍼　含針　棒　十手　捻　水泳　水馬

の十八項目をあげてゐるのがあるが　中には殊更に武芸二十八般として

弓　撃剣　騎馬　薙刀　鎗　水戯　隠形　拳法　鉄砲　纂目　火矢　棒　七

The Japanese Eighteen Weapons of War are derived from both *The Eighteen Weapons of A Warrior* and *The Warrior's Eighteen Weapons of War*. However, depending on the book you read, the categories, names, weapons and techniques may differ. There are many inconsistencies in how the information is presented. Some writers say it is the "Eighteen Techniques" while others will say the base is eighteen techniques, but there are an additional ten techniques bringing the total to twenty-eight. Let us take a look at some of these lists.

In the Genroku Era (1688-1704), Kaibara Ekiken 貝原益軒 (1630-1714) wrote in the *Military* chapter of *The Second Volume of Japanese and Chinese Topics* that there were *Fourteen Martial Arts* 武藝十四事. The fourteen were Bow, Horse, Staff, Sword, Sword Drawing, Fencing, Halberd, Sickle, Spear, Rifle, Stone Projectiles and Arrows (Crossbow), Fire Arrows, Rope restraints and Unarmed Combat.

However in the first volume of his book *Instructions For The Warrior*, Kaibara Ekiden makes no mention of the *Fourteen Martial Arts*. Instead he states, "…there are fourteen martial techniques consisting of Bow, Horse, Sword, Spear, Sword Drawing, Halberd, Fencing, Sickle, Staff, Restraining with Rope, Unarmed Combat, Shooting from Horseback, Rifle and Swimming."

A martial arts manual published in the Bunka and Bunsei Eras, when martial arts were flourishing, stated that *The Eighteen Weapons of War* were: the Bow, Horse, Sword, Spear, Halberd, Rifle, Chain and Sickle, Shuriken, Shooting from Horseback, Jujutsu, Evading Techniques, Clothing Tangler (a long pole with hooks on the end to catch the Kimono of miscreants), Needle Spitting, Staff, Police Truncheon, Rope, Swimming and Swimming on Horseback.

Within this work there is yet another list stating that the eighteen martial arts are, "Bow, Fencing, Riding a Horse in Armor, Halberd, Spear, Swimming, Evading Techniques, Unarmed Fighting, Rifle, Signal Arrows, Fire Arrows, Staff, Clothing Tangler, Metal Rake, Metal Restraining Pole, Police Truncheon, Signal Rockets and Cannons."

鎌　鉄杖　鉄叉　十手　烽火　大銃

の十八般の外に

流鏑馬　犬追物　牛追物　笠掛　騎馬筒　水馬　坐撃　鎖鎌　騎射　銃鏡

の十般を附加したものもある　しかしこの武芸二十八般は　眞に武術全般の内容を解さざる者が　徒らに武技名を羅列し二十八般としたもので　一項目中に屬すべき様なもの迄も　無理に一項目としたもので　二十八般とは云ひ得ない

そこで　以上の外まだ十八般なるもの二三あれど　此等はいづれもたゞ名稱項目を変へただけのもので　何等の差異もなければこれを略し　前記　十四事　十八般　二十八般　全部を総合し　これを術技別に分類し　日本の武芸十八般なるものを検討して見ると　左の如くなる

In addition to those fourteen, the following ten were added: Yabusame (Horseback Archery), Inu Omono (Dog Play-Hunting), Ushi Omono (Cow Play-Hunting), Archery (Target Shooting), Firing a Rife on Horseback, Riding a Horse Through Water, Sword Drawing While Seated, Chain and Sickle, Kasagake (Archery Hat Shooting) and Shuriken.

In my opinion the person who put this list of eighteen martial arts together did not have a real understanding of martial arts. He or she just cobbled a list of weapons and techniques and it happened to add up to twenty-eight. Items that clearly belong in one group are clumsily wedged in under another heading. One would be hard pressed to call something like this, "The Twenty-Eight Weapons of War."

There are two or three books that mention the eighteen techniques or the eighteen weapons, but they are no more than lists and they vary only in the order of presentation, therefore I have not included them here.

Gathering together the previous Fourteen Weapons, Eighteen Weapons, Twenty-Eight Weapons and its sub-list of Ten Weapons, I have organized these techniques and weapons into a single list ordered according to subject. The following is my proposal for the *Japanese Eighteen Weapons of War.*

1 剣術、刀術　撃剣
2 居合術、抜刀術　坐撃
3 柔術、拳法
4 捕縄術、捕縄術　索
5 鎗術、（直鎗素鎗）鈎鎗
十文字鎗　佐分利鎗）
6 長刀術　薙刀術　眉尖刀
7 棒術
8 杖術
9 三道具　鋸　鉄扒　鉄叉
10 手裏剣術　撃剣　銃鎗
11 十手術
12 含針術
13 弓術　射術　李満弓　暮目
14 馬術　騎馬術　騎射術（流鏑馬　笠掛　犬追物　騎馬笥　牛追物）水馬術
15 鎖鎌術　鎌
16 砲術　火術　大銃　鳥銃　発碇　火箭　火矢　烽火
17 水泳術　水練　水戯
18 忍術　隠形

1. Sword Techniques: Katana Techniques, Fencing

2. Sword Drawing Techniques: Standing and Seated Sword Drawing

3. Unarmed Combat: Fighting With the Fists

4. Police Rope Arresting Techniques: Restraining With Rope

5. Spear Techniques: Straight Spear, Plain Spear, Spear With Hook on End, Spear With Cross-Shaped Blade, Saburi Spear (With hook & long spear point)

6. Halberd Techniques: Short Halberd, Halberd With an Eyebrow Shaped Blade

7. Staff Fighting Techniques

8. Short Staff Fighting Techniques

9. The Three Tools: Clothing Tangler, Metal Rake, Forked Spear

10. Shuriken Techniques: Using Shuriken While Fencing, Shuriken

11. Police Truncheon

12. Needle Spitting

13. Archery: Target Shooting, Riman (Portable Bow), Signal Arrows

14. Equestrian Arts: Riding in Armor, Firing From Horseback, Firing at Multiple Stationary Targets, Firing at a Hat Dog Hunting, Cow Hunting and Firing Rifles. Riding Through Water

15. Chain and Sickle Techniques: The Sickle

16. Firearms: Gunpowder Devices, Cannons, Rifles, Projectile Launchers, Fire Arrows (to ignite something), Fire Signal Arrows, Fire Signal Arrows

17. Swimming Techniques: Water Training, Swimming Arts

18. Ninjutsu: Escaping and Evading Techniques

此外　試剣術　乳切木術　吹矢術　鉄輪術　鎖術　鎌術　鉄扇術　打根術　等があり　術技別名等を挙げると三十数種となるが　これはこの武芸十八般中には挙げられてゐないので　こゝには書かない

武芸十八般を　たゞ(縷)項目丈でなくや、説明的に書いたものに　平山子龍述する處の「武芸十八般略説」がある　これは研究者にとつても一つの参考文献となると思つたので　その全文を載せて附録とし　我が武芸十八般名称術技略解を述べることにする

In addition to the list on the previous page there are also techniques such as Test Cutting With a Sword, Short Staff With Chain, Blow Dart Gun, Iron Ring Techniques, Chain Techniques, Metal Fan Techniques, Throwing Arrow Techniques and so on. If I were to include all the alternate names for the techniques the list would extend to thirty or more. This would be beyond the scope of *The Eighteen Weapons of War* so I will not include them here.

Clearly, just a list of the techniques that comprise *The Eighteen Weapons of War* is not enough. What is needed is some explanation and here we can fortunately call upon Hirayama Gyozo's book *A Simple Explanation of The Eighteen Weapons of War*. This book is invaluable to researchers of this subject so I have decided to reprint the entire contents here and draw on it for my *The Eighteen Weapons of War: A Brief Introduction*.

武艹十八般略説

集成武艹十八般序

武芸十八般之目、出于謝氏五雜俎、反水滸傳　而我邦　未聞有倡之者焉　愚不顧僭踰　損益其目　敷演其式　集成以爲二十餘(余)件　而其技之爲形勢也　專主戰陣之實用　不取周施之美觀矣　且也各其辨説　以示使用　只憂其繁重　故摘其要　而附左側　令覽者知其大略　爾

文化三年丙寅夏六月

東海　兵原　平山潛　子龍氏

揮毫于　運籌堂　北窓下

A Simple Explanation of The Eighteen Weapons of War
Introduction to a Compilation of the Eighteen Martial Arts

There are no doubt many that are already familiar with *The Eighteen Weapons of War* due to books like *Five Scrapbooks of Detritus* by Xie Zhao Zhe or *Water Margin* by Shi Nai'an. This volume is for those that are interested in learning about the strengths and weaknesses of each weapon.

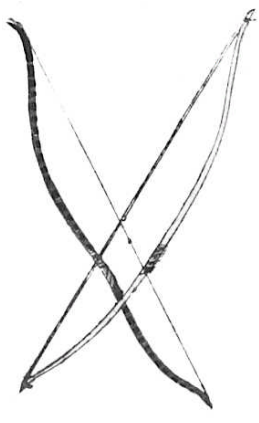
I consulted over twenty sources when compiling this list. I looked at the construction of each weapon or technique and what role played on the battlefield. I did not include any that seemed superfluous. I have also included a brief description of each as well as its uses and important features on the following pages. That is my intention for this brief analysis.

Written in the summer month of June, in the third year of Bunka 1806

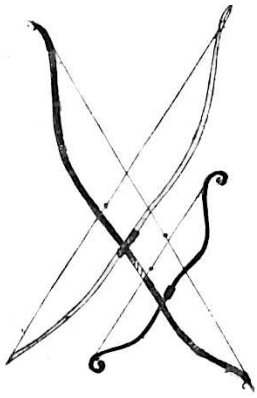
Tokai Heigen Hirayama Sen Shiryu

(Tokai, Heigen, Sen and Shiryu are all alternate names used by Hirayama Gyozo. He seems to refer to himself as Heigen.)

丸木弓　重藤弓



番弓　鉾弓　半弓



武芸十八般略説

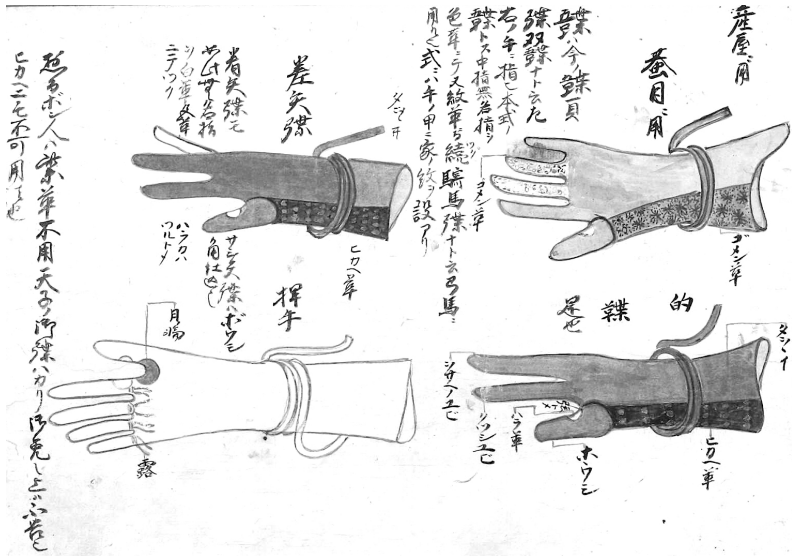
弓　木弓ヲ用フ　長サ六尺　坐射　立射共ニ矢ワザ十間内外　甲冑上ノ射形ナリ　弓矢ノ説并ニ製別ニ論アリ

李満弓　俗ニ鯨半弓　或ハ駕篭弓ト称ス　矢ワザ五間内外

A Simple Explanation of The Eighteen Weapons of War

Bow (Yumi)

A Kiyumi, or wooden bow. The length is about six Shaku (185cm). This type of bow is used to fire arrows a distance of around ten Ken (18 meters). This can be done either while crouched or standing. This implies you are firing while in armor. There are many schools of thought regarding the construction of the Bow, the Arrows as well as the protective *Yugake* (archer's glove, illustration below from the Edo Era *Archery Scroll*) that has a groove for pulling the string.



Riman Bow (Riman Kyu)

Also known as the Whale Half-Bow because the basket-like quiver the arrows are contained in resemble the beard of a whale. Also called a Basket Arrow. Techniques with this weapon are done at a distance of about five Ken (9 meters).

Illustrations on previous page from an Edo Era book *Illustrations of Two Hundred Weapons*. Top right: Maru Kiyumi an Unadorned Kiyumi. Top left: Shige Fuji no Yumi a bow made from the wisteria tree.

弩

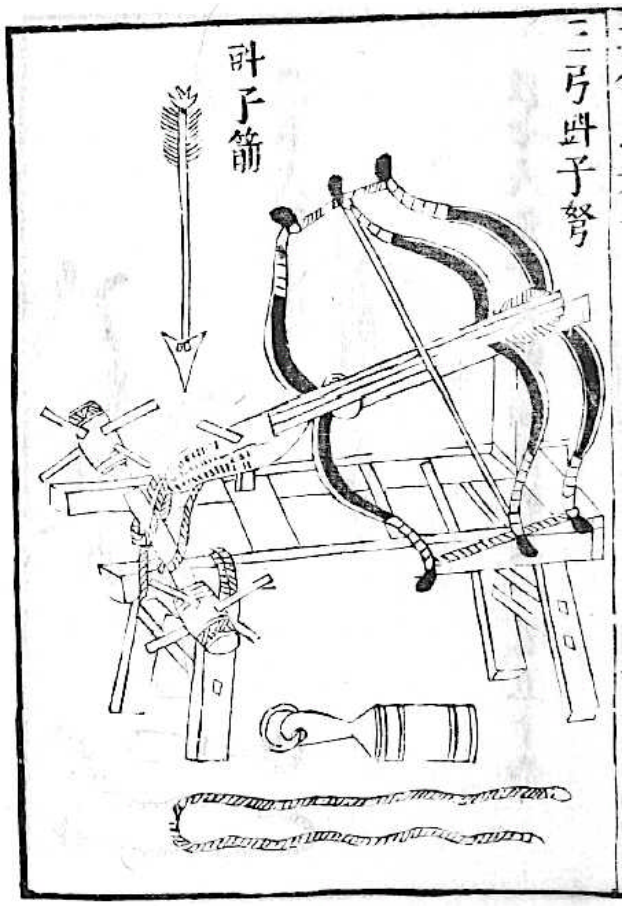
俗ニヨゝユミト云　立発　坐発　間数三十間内外　蹶張弩　腰開弩　諸葛弩　提発弩附ス　今愚カ用ユル所ハ我邦古製ノ物ナリ　其説サキニ著ス　神弩考ニ詳ナリ　徃テ見ルベシ

Crossbow (Do)

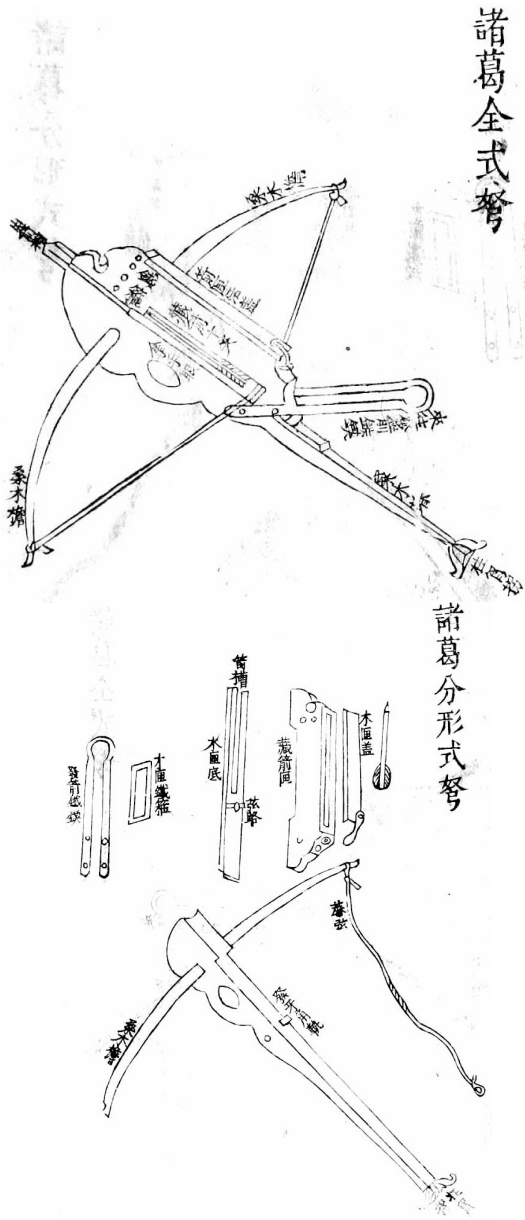
Commonly known as a Great Bow. It can be fired either while kneeling or standing. Accurate to around thirty Ken (54 meters). Other types of crossbow include the Foot Loading Crossbow and the Waist Loading Crossbow The Repeating Crossbow, developed by the Chinese tactician Zhuge Liang (181–234), is also included in this category.
I tend to utilize only older Japanese models. For those interested in further information, the book *Considerations of the Heavenly Crossbow* has all the information you need.
Note: The last sentence is the translator's best guess. The book is unknown. The illustrations on the previous page are from *The Complete Collection of Essential Military Classics* and were not in Fujita Seiko's book.

Top illustration: Knee Loading Crossbow
Center: Foot Loading Crossbow
Bottom: Waist Loading Crossbow

Illustration on this page is an Assisted Waist Loading Crossbow.



This giant crossbow from *The Complete Collection of Essential Military Classics* is similar to the one Fujita Seiko shows in his definition of a crossbow. It is called a 床弩 Shodo in Japanese, meaning a Floor Mounted Crossbow (though the Chinese would probably refer to it as a Bed Frame Crossbow based on the same Kanji). The triple bow configuration gave this arcuballista spear throwing device enough power to shoot a bolt nearly a kilometer. While not mobile it can deliver blows to stationary targets. Primarily used for castle defense, it could also be used offensively to shoot a series of bolts into the walls of a castle to be used as handholds for troops to climb walls. Though powerful, loading and preparing the weapon no doubt took a long time.



Illustrations of an assembled and unassembled Zhuge Liang Repeating Crossbow. From *The Complete Collection of Essential Military Classics.*

葛弩　抛発弩附ス　今愚カ用ユル所ハ我邦古製ノ物ナリ　其説サキニ著ス　神弩考ニ詳ナリ　徃テ見ルベシ

馬

馬上ノ槍術　剣術　組打　騎射　鉄砲等ノ諸勝負ナリ　鞍鐙古法ノ製作ニ倣フ事別論アリ

刀

附對敵抽刀　俗ニヌキウチト云　俗ニ剣術ト云

大刀

長サ六尺ヨリ七尺以上ニ及フ　俗ニ野大刀　或ハ中巻ト云

青龍刀

俗ニ大長刀ト　騎戦ノ要器ナリ　但右搆ニナラザレバ使フ事ヲ得ズ

眉尖刀

俗ニ小薙刀ト　槍ニ對スルニ便ナリ　故ニ左搆ヲ用フ

Equestrian (Uma)

A warrior should have the ability to fight with a spear or a sword while on horseback. Any warrior should also be able to fire a bow or a rifle and fight in hand to hand combat while mounted. The traditional methods for making armor and saddles for horses is a separate issue.

Sword (Katana)

The use of weapon also includes drawing your sword when suddenly faced with an enemy. This is more commonly known as draw and cut. Also referred to as Kenjutsu, the art of the sword.

Great Sword (Tachi)

A sword that can be anywhere from 6 to 7 Shaku (180-210 centimeters) or more in length. This weapon is also known as a Nodachi (Great Field Sword) or a Nakamaki (Middle Wrapped Sword).

Note: The Nakamaki is also known as a Nagamaki (Long Wrapped Sword).

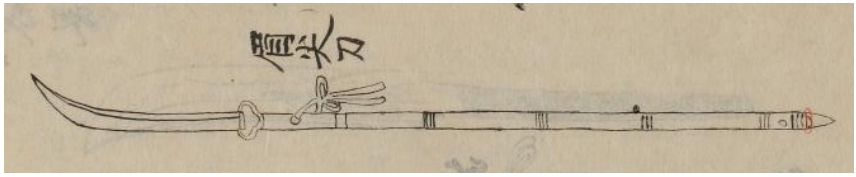
Green Dragon Crescent Blade (Seiryuto)

More commonly known as a Great Halberd. An essential weapon when mounted riders join combat. It is difficult to use in anything other than a right facing stance.

Note: The Kanji is actually written as "blue" but the color historically refers to a fresh green like new grass, or dragon scales.

Eyebrow Blade Halberd (Bisento)

More commonly known as the Small Halberd. It is used much like a spear, therefore a stance with the left hand forward is typically used. Illustration from *A Quick Guide to the Secret Teachings of the Spear*.



眉尖刀　俗ニ小薙刀ト　槍ニ對スルニ便ナリ　故ニ左攝ヲ用フ

抽　刀　俗ニ居合ト云　演習ノ義　辨アリ　傳アリ

槍　附鑓鎗　俗ニ云　直ヤリ也　平場ノ戰ニ其用尤利

戟　俗ニ十文字ヤリト云　攻城水中ニ用ルニヨロシ　尤其長スル所ナリ

鈀　俗ニ佐分利ヤリト云　其用戟ニ全シ　又コレヲ中堅ノ歩士ニ用ヒテ拒禦ニ備ヘシ

Sword Drawing (Chuto)

While listed as Chuto (Literally "Sword Plucking") the technique is more commonly known as Iai. It is principally used for demonstrations. There are cautions as well as transmissions regarding this.

Spear (Yari)

This category also includes the Hook Spear. The Hook Spear is a polearm with a metal hook extending out horizontally in addition to a blade. The Spear is also known commonly as the Straight Spear. It is most effective on a flat battlefield.

Halberd-Spear (Hoko)

More commonly known as Juji Yari, the spear with a cross shaped blade. Can be effectively used when storming castles or in water by simply adjusting the length.

Long Spear (Ha/Ho)

Commonly known as a Saburi School Spear. It combines the use of a spear with the use of a halberd. Further, if you equip your mid-range foot soldiers with this spear they can make a good defensive perimeter. Note: Fujita Seiko uses the Kanji 鈀(Ha) but other sources show this weapon as 鉋(Ho).

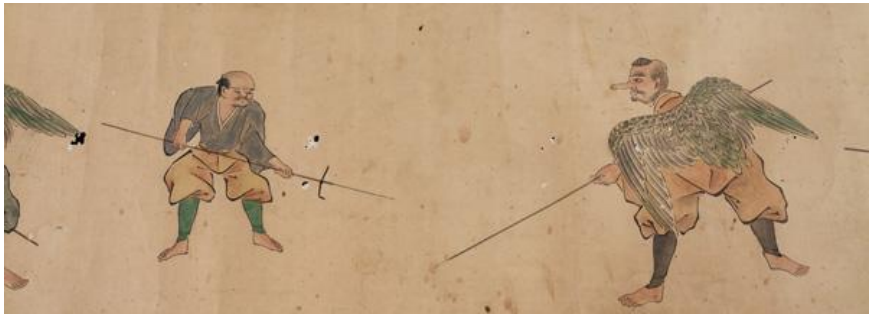


Illustration from an Edo Era Saburi School scroll.

鏢鎗　水陸共ニ用フトイヘ𪜈最モ海戰ニ利アリ　因幡全存用フル所ノ火箭ハ盖
是ナリ

棍　俗ニ棒ト云　或ハ搶リ折ト云

鉄鞭　附簡　俗ニ云　ケサン　或ハ鉄扇　俗ニ十手ト云　已ヲ護テ敵ヲ擒ニス
ルノ具

飛鎚　附　鎖鎌　説別著ニアリ　俗ニ虎乱杖　或ハ鏈術ト云フノ類ナリ　槍ヲ
制シ　剣ヲ奪フ是ヨリ剏ナルハナシ　益善行者所用ノ渾天燕ノ類也

拳　俗ニヤワラト云　気体ヲ鍛錬シ　手足ヲ活動ス　實ニ諸技ノ源入芸ノ門
ナリ

Javelin (Hyoso)

Used by warriors assigned to ships. Most effective weapon for fighting ship to ship. It was used throughout Inaba Domain, which is on the Sea of Japan in western Japan. They were often used in conjunction with fire arrows.

Staff (Kon)

The Japanese word for this is Kon but it is commonly referred to as Bo, wooden staff. Also known as Yariori, a broken spear shaft.

Steel Whip (Tetsumuchi/Kesan)

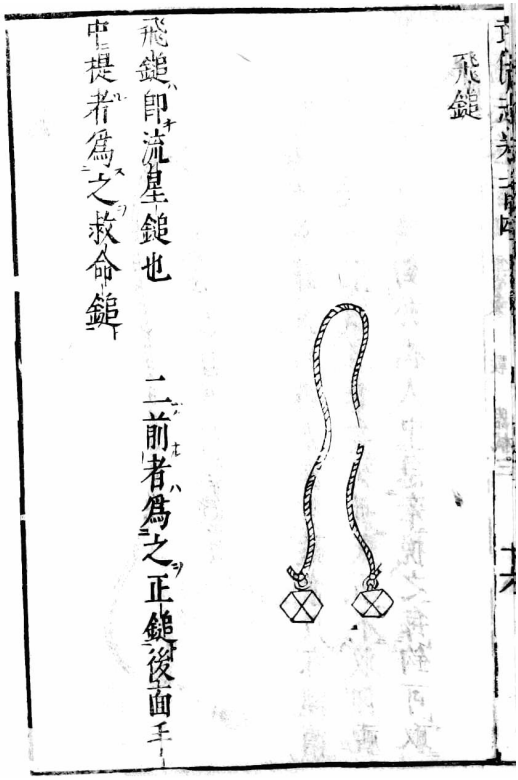
Also includes the Steel Bamboo Stave, though it is more commonly known by the Japanese name Kesan. Other names are Tessen, the steel fan. Also known as the Jutte, the Police Truncheon. A weapon to defend yourself against the enemy but also to attack.

飛鎚　附鎖鎌　説別書ニアリ　俗ニ虎乱杖　或ハ鎖術ト云フノ類ナリ　槍ヲ制シ　剣ヲ奪フ是ヨリ甚ナルハナシ　達摩行者所用ノ渾天燕ノ類也

Flying Hammer (Hizuchi)

Includes Chain and Sickle. Depending on the document, other names and descriptions of this weapon can be found. An example is the name Koranjo, Wild Tiger Staff. In Japan the way of using this weapon is called Kusari Jutsu, Chain Techniques. This weapon is effective against an opponent armed with a spear and this is the most effective weapon for stealing the sword away from the enemy. There is a whole set of skills known as Hammer Techniques. Effective when used to suppress a spear or yank away a sword. Li Cunxiao (an 8th Century Chinese General) used a weapon related to this.

This illustration from *The Complete Collection of Essential Military Classics* shows the Flying Hammer as two weights attached to a cord or possibly a chain. It lists an alternate name as the Shooting Star Hammer.



拳

俗ニヤワラト云　気体ヲ鍛錬シ　手足ヲ活動ス　實ニ諸技ノ源入芸ノ門ナリ

銃

俗ニ手前筒ト云　弾重サ三十銭ヨリ百銭ニ至ル

附餘　百子齊発砲　礮石　銃箭　小発煩　仏郎機砲　流星箭　飛箭砲

震天雷砲　百子齊砲ハ俗ニ云、鏖ナリ　砲石ハ俗ニ云イシユミナリ

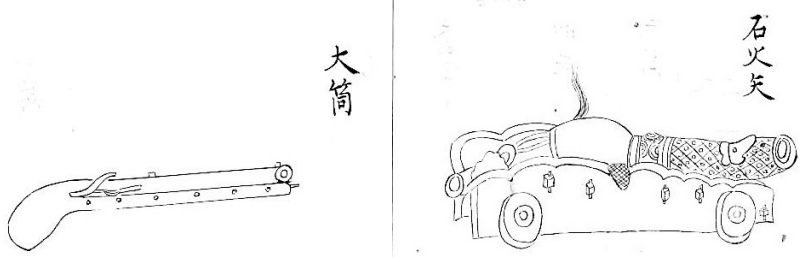
Unarmed Combat

Known by the Japanese word Yawara, meaning soft. By intensively training the body you can use the hands and feet effectively. In fact the origins of most of the techniques arise from the performing arts.

Guns

Referred to colloquially as Hand Tubes. The bullets weigh between 30 Sen (One Sen is 3.78 grams x 30=113.4 grams) and 100 Sen. Related to this are the Never Missing Hundred Shot Gun, the Catapult, Arrow Firing Gun (like a cannon but shoots an arrow), a Handgun, Trebuchet, Rocket Assisted Arrow, Rocket Arrows and the Heaven Shaking Bomb Cannon. The Never Missing Hundred Shot Gun is also known by the single Kanji 鏖 which is read Minagoroshi. The word Minagoroshi means "to kill everyone." Catapults were also known as Ishiyumi, or Rock Crossbows.

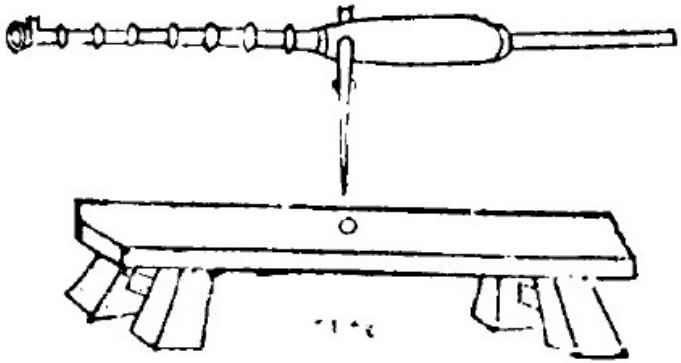
Left: Tanegashima style rife Right: A "Small Tube" matchlock



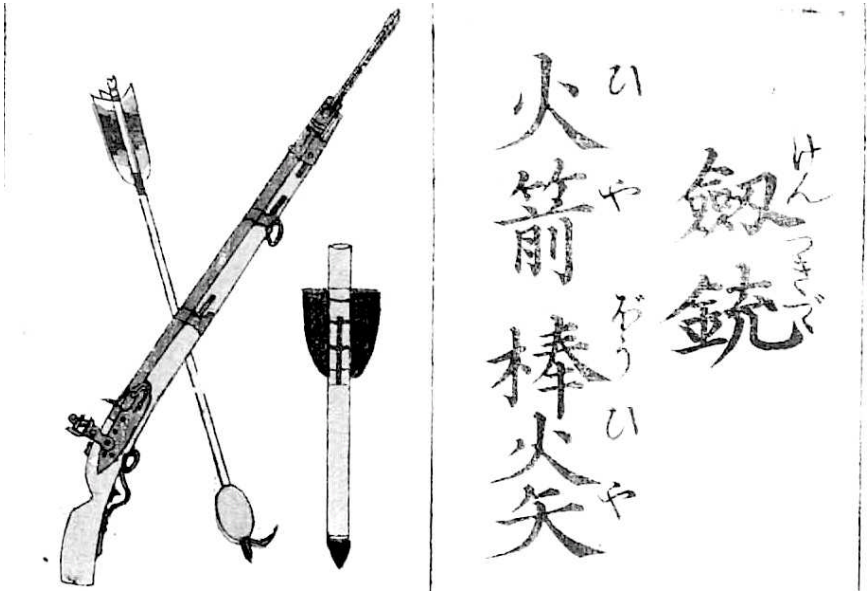
Left: A Large Tube" matchlock Right: A "Rock Fire Arrow" cannon
Illustrations from *Short Songs on How to Use Weapons*, 1853

百子銃

放時執尾牽挽望準照星于稠人處打之百發百中兵舟師第一利器也守城亦宜用之



Opposite page: The Never Missing One Hundred Shot gun. So named because of its accuracy. It is said that if you shoot it a hundred times it will hit a hundred times. Typically mounted on boats though also used in castle defense. The mounting enabled it to be rotated easily. From *The Soldier's Record* by Ka Johin, a 14 volume work started in 1606 and finished in 1630.



A Sword Shooting matchlock, a Fire Arrow and a Long Fire Arrow from *Illustrations of Two Hundred Weapons.*

カラクリヲ以テ五六貫目ノ石ヲ五六十間先ヘ投クルモノ也　後漢史ニアル霹靂車モ此ノ類也　或ハコレヲホウロク玉ヲモ投ルナリ　元人用ル所ノ襄陽砲ハコレナリ　砲石ヲ平塲ノ戰并ニ城攻篭城ニ用ヒシ事和漢其證甚多シ　其事礮石図説ニ出セリ　往テ讀ムベシ　銃箭ハ俗ニ云　南蛮火箭　棒火箭ナリ　坚木ヲ以テ幹トシ鉄葉ヲ用テ羽トシ　火藥ヲ用ヒズシテ　戰艦ヲ摧キ桅檣ヲ折ノ法アリ　或ハ雜木ヲ篦トシ　薄板ヲ羽トシ　燒藥ヲ施シテ陣営城寨ヲヤクノ術アリ　小発煩ハ俗ニ云　小石火矢ナリ　滚車ニ架ス夷險圧ニ便ナリ　仏狼機ハ俗ニ云　入子発煩　或ハハラカンナリ　一母九子ニシテ曇放ニ便ナリ　流星箭ハ俗ニ云　大國火矢ナリ　陸戰ニ営砦ヲヤキ　水軍ニ蓬帆ヲヤク　飛箭砲ハ俗ニ云　田村火矢ナリ　用フルニ所アリ　是上奇ヲ出スノ一策ナリ　震天雷砲ハ俗ニホウロクト云　此ヲ放ツニ碗口銃ヲ用フヘシ　賊衆屯聚スル所ニ墜落シ　或ハ城営ノ中ニ発遣スレハ　人ノ眼目ヲ暗シ　咽喉ヲ封シ　毒烟毒火散乱飛走シテ　敵ノ気魄ヲ奪フ　敗亡踵ヲ旋スヘカラス

Mechanical devices were used to hurl a stone weighing 5 or 6 Kan (1 Kan= 3.75 kilograms. 5~6 Kan is equivalent to 19~22 (kilograms) fifty or sixty Ken (One Ken =1.8 meters. 5~6 Ken is equivalent to 90~108 meters.) In Chinese history the device known as the Stupendous Thunderclap Cart, a kind of massive catapult, also belongs in this category. The Thunderclap Cart could also hurl earthenware pot projectiles. The Kai-Kai Ho, or Revolving and Spinning Catapult (similar to a Trebuchet) used in the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368) is also in this group.

Catapults can be used on typical battlefields as well as attacking fortresses or sieging castles. There are numerous examples of this in both Japan and China. There is a book related to this called *An Illustrated Guide to Catapults* and I recommend you read it.

There are a lot of terms under the heading of Firearms and Rocketry. Barbarian Fire Arrows, Pole Firing Arrows and so on. A tube can be made with slats of wood bound together. Fins can then be made out of metal and attached to act as stabilizers like the feathers of a bird.

Other methods could generate enough force to snap the mast of a ship without using gunpowder. In addition, scrap wood could be banged together to make a container, which is then filled with explosives. Flat pieces of wood can be fashioned into wings and attached. These Yaku no Jutsu, or Demolition Techniques can be effective against enemy positions, castles or strongholds.

Small Cannons are also known by the name Small Rock Fire Arrow. These Small Cannons can be loaded onto Mobile Carts and used to sweep away barbarians. The French style Trebuchet are also known colloquially as a Cup Catapult (simply load ordinance into a spoon-like hollow). In Japan it was called a Harakan. It can hurl up to nine stone slabs.

The shooting star projectiles are more commonly known as Great Country Fire Rockets. They can burn down a stronghold being held by a division. Naval forces can utilize them to burn the sails of enemy ships.

The Fire Arrow Catapult is also known as the Tamura Fire Arrow. There are many applications for this since it is a perfect weapon of surprise.

右　唐山ノ武芸十八般ノ目ニ倣テ集成スル所也　但　其十八般ノ中　鎚　槍　杈　綿縄套索ノ類　遅鈍迂濶ニシテ取ルニ足ラザル者ハ之ヲ省キ　補スルニ軍学治乱共也　用テ利便ナルモノヲ以テス　庶クハ其目ハ彼ニ倣トイヘトモ　事ハアレニ優ナラン事ヲ覧者清鑒之

兵原眞逸誌

The Heaven Shaking Thunder Shell is more commonly known as Fireball in Japanese. It should be fired from a Teacup Cannon. This shell can be used to collapse a pirate's hideout on top of him or to crash down in the middle of a castle. It will blind the opponents and choke them.

Poisoned smoke or poisoned flames can be used to sow confusion, cause retreat and steal the minds of the opponents. It will have them turning on their heels and fleeing in defeat and death.

The above mentioned are a general outline of what I have determined to be the Chinese Eighteen Weapons of War. Note that within these Eighteen Weapons of War, chain weapons, arresting forked spear, rake and restraining through tying up techniques do not appear. There may be those wondering why they have been excluded and that I may be careless or stupid. Armies change as peace turns to war and war turns to peace. They make use of what seems the most practical at the time. We should see what they have done and seek to learn from it. That is the most important thing. I will leave it up to my dear readers to judge.

Entirely the Words of Heibara

武藝十八般 術名稱 略解

藤田西湖

劍術 劍道

劍術とは　刀劍を以て敵と闘ひ　敵を制し自己を守る技術で　刀術　擊劍術　太刀打術とも云ひ　又　たちうち　しあい　たちがきの術とも云つた

武器として用ひる物には　刀　太刀　大太刀　長太刀　小太刀　等がある

刀は　片刃造りの刀身で　刃を上に向けて腰にさす二尺三寸五分位のもの　太刀は　帶取りを設けて　刃を下にして腰につるすもの　大太刀は　太刀より長くした戰場用のもの　長太刀（柄太刀　野太刀　中卷　長卷）は長い柄をつけた太刀で軍陳用として野郊で用ゆるので　これを野太刀とも云ひ　又　柄を手繩で鎧元まで卷いてあるので　中卷野太刀　又　長卷とも云つた　小太刀は小太刀である　この外劍術の中には　單刀術　短劍術等もある

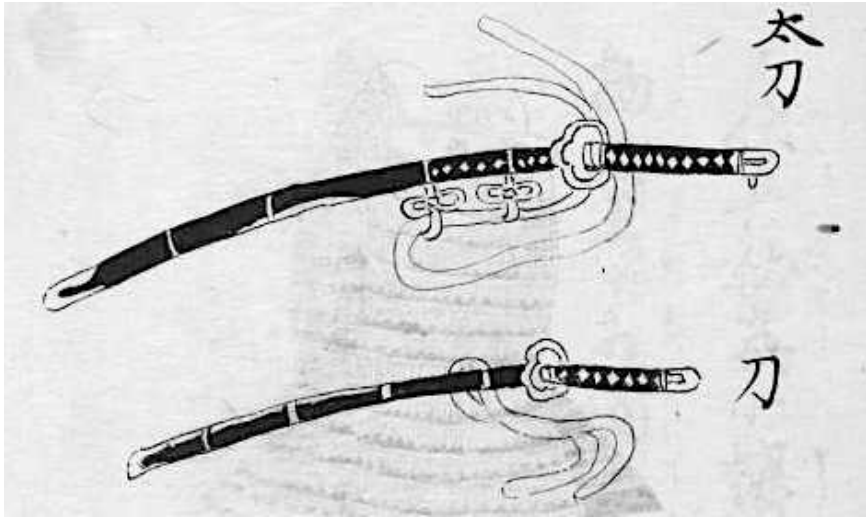
A Brief Introduction to and Explanation of
The Eighteen Weapons of War

Fujita Seiko

Kenjutsu and Kendo

The meaning of Kenjutsu, or sword fighting, is to use a bladed weapon in combat against the enemy. The techniques involve controlling your opponent while protecting yourself. It is referred to variously as Tojutsu (Katana Techniques) Gekiken Jutsu (Fencing Techniques, literally "striking with the sword") as well as Tachi Uchi Jutsu (Striking Techniques with the Tachi).

These methods are also known simply as Tachi-Uchi (Striking with the Tachi), Shiai (Sword Match) and Tachigaki no Jutsu (Swinging the Tachi.) The weapons used in this art are the Katana, the Tachi, the Great Tachi, the long Tachi, the short Tachi and so on.

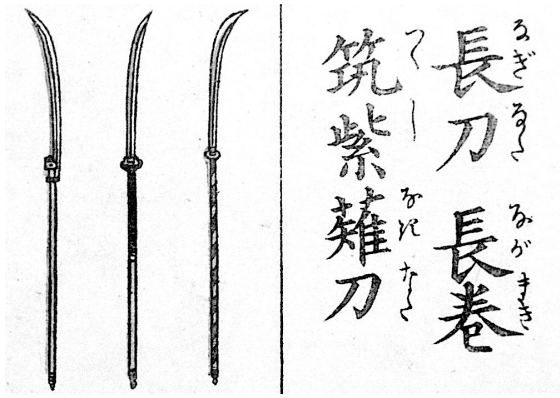


Examples of a Tachi (top) and a Katana (bottom) from *Short Songs on How to Use Weapons.*

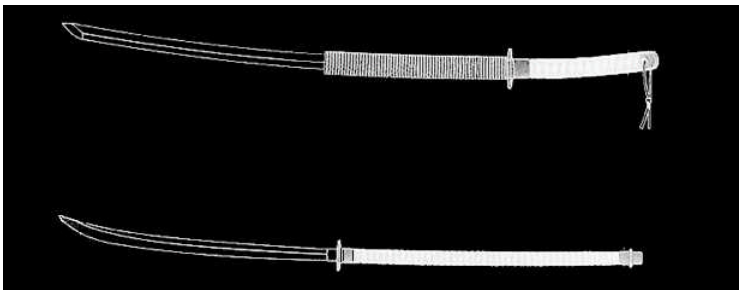
The Katana is a sword with a single blade. It is worn on the hip with the blade facing upward. Typically the Katana measures two Shaku and three Sun in length (73 centimeters.) The Tachi on the other

hand is attached to the belt with straps, blade down. The Great Tachi is longer than the standard Tachi and is for use on the open battlefield.

The Nodachi, or Field Tachi, comes in several varieties such as the Handled Tachi, Field Tachi and Middle Wrapped. However all of these swords are classified as Tachi, albeit with a longer handle suitable for fighting in divisions on open fields. Therefore these are generally referred to as Field Tachi. Since the rope wrapping the sword handles extends all the way to the Tsuba (hand guard) they are also referred to as Middle Wrapped Field Tachi. Another name is the Nagamaki, the Long Wrapped Tachi. The Kodachi refers to what its name implies, the Short Tachi.



Examples of a Naginata (Halberd Right), A Nagamaki (Long Wrap Center) and a Tsukushi Naginata (Purple Cliff Halberd). From *Illustrations of Two Hundred Weapons.*



The Top illustration shows a Nakamaki with a wrapping around the blade. The lower illustration shows a Nagamaki with a longer handle.

Next, under the topic of Kenjutsu we also have Gunto Jutsu, techniques involving the Standard Issue Military Sword as well as Tanken, or Short Sword Techniques. Gunto Jutsu, the art of using the standard issue military sword, teaches how to use the Gunto in combat. Originally the Gunto was used one-handed in battle so the techniques focused on that. Later on however, since the Gunto began to be used with both hands the methods gradually started to reflect that. Tanken Jutsu, or Short Sword Techniques are how to fight with the short sword.

Examples of standard issue long and short swords. Here called Jinto and Jin Wakizashi. From *Short Songs on How to Use Weapons.*

軍刀術とは　軍刀を使つて敵と戰ふ術で　以前は　片手に軍刀を以つて鬪ふ片手　共軍刀術を用ひたが　後両手で持つて行ふ様になつた　短剣術は　短剣を以つて鬪ふ術をいふのである

居合術

居合術とは　敵に防禦のいとまもあらせぬ程　迅速果敢に抜討つ　抜刀速技術を云ふので　抜刀術　抜剣術　抽刀術　坐撃術　意合術　座合　機抜　早抜　居抜　抜合　居相　對術　居合手語　等の名がある　神陰流では　朝の内とも云つてゐる

試劍　試斬

刀の利鈍を試みるために　人又は物を斬つて　ためすことを試斬と云ひ　土壇に罪人などの死骸等を据ゑておいて　種々の斬り方をするを据物斬と云ふ

Sword Drawing

The purpose of Iai Jutsu, Sword Drawing, is to draw your sword so rapidly and decisively that opponents have no chance to defend themselves. The method is also known as Batto Soku Gijutsu, Rapid Drawing Technique.

Other names are:

Batto Jutsu	Katana Drawing Technique
Bakken Jutsu	Sword Drawing Technique
Chuto Jutsu	Plucking Technique
Zageki Jutsu	Attacking While Seated Technique
Iai Jutsu	Matching the Intent
Zaai	Seated Matching
Kibatsu	Drawing When the Chance Appears
Hayanuki	Rapid Drawing
Inuki	Draw When Opponent Is Near
Nukiai	Draw When Faced With Opponent
Iso	The Distance Between You and the Opponent
Taijutsu	Techniques When Confronted
Iai Morote	Matching the Intent Two Handed Movements

And there are still others. In the Shinkage School of sword fighting it is known as Saya no Uchi, Handling The Scabbard.

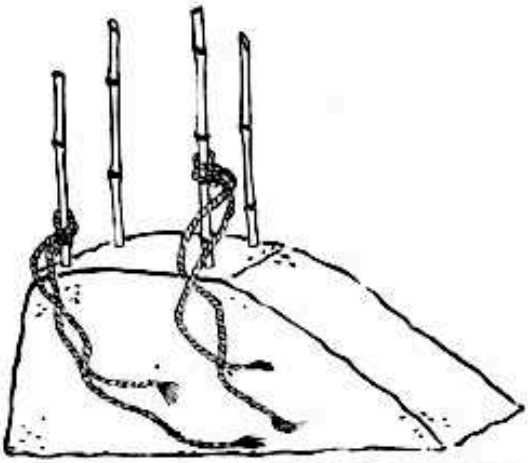
Sword Testing

Shiken (Sword Testing) and Tameshi Giri (Test Cutting) are names that refer to testing the relative sharpness or dullness of a sword. Typically this would be done on an object or on a person. Placing the body of an executed prisoner on top of a mound and trying out various cuts on the body is known as Suemono-Kiri.

土壇之圖

○砂ト真土ヲ半分交ニシテイカニモ細カニフルヒヨク煉合セテ圖ノ如ク堅ク築立ルナリ偖据モノハ向ヒニテ左ノ方ヲ首ニ為シ背ヲ正面ノ方ニ向ケ真横ニシテ太刀ヲ打込ム箇所ヲ土壇ト透間ナキヤウニ仕カケ動サル為ニ圖ノ通リ竹ヲ前後ニ建ル是ヲ挾竹ト唱ヘ前ノ竹ノ縄ヲ後ノ竹ニカラミ据モノヲシカトト入ルナリ大概此圖ニテ考フヘシ

○截斷スル名所ハ懐寶劒尺ノ附言ニ



土壇の図

Dodan no Zu
Illustration of a Practice Cutting Mound

From the Edo Era book *Considerations on Forging Now and In The Past*
This was not originally part of Fujita Seiko's book.

Mix together equal parts earth and sand. Clearly the sand and earth should be finely sifted and blended. The end result should look like the illustration. Be sure to pack the material firmly. The body of the person being cut by the Samurai is called the Suemono. Facing the mound the head of the Suemono would extend out to the left. The body should be on its side with the back facing towards you. To ensure that when cutting there are no gaps between where the body lays and the mound, bamboo poles are inserted in front and behind. As the illustration shows these bamboo poles serve to secure the body. Rope is tied from the front pole diagonally across to the back pole and from the back pole to the front, crossing over the body and securing it firmly.

This illustration should serve as a general overview of how to build such a mound and carry out test cutting.

柔術　柔道

柔術とは　素手又は小武器を以て　無手乃至武器を持つてかゝる敵を制禦する技で　拳法　拳術　打手　白打　搏打　手搏　蹴術　捕手　取手　捕合　組合　組討　小具足　腰廻　体術　胎術　和術　柔　彌和羅　柔道　等の名がある

打つ　突く　蹴るを主としたものを　拳法　拳術　白打　打手　搏打　手搏　蹴術と云ひ　捕へ　抑へ　縛すことを主としたものを　捕手　取手　捕合と云ひ　組み　投げ　討ち　抑へることを主としたものを　組打　小具足　腰廻りと云ひ　投け　絞め　抑へ　逆をとることを主としたものを　柔術　和術　柔　彌和羅と云ふ

Jujutsu and Judo

Jujutsu is a set of techniques where you are either barehanded or holding a small weapon. You control the opponent whether they are armed or not. Some of the alternate names for techniques that control the opponent include but are not limited to:

Kenpo	Way of the Fist
Kenjutsu	Fisticuffs
Danshu	Boxing
Hakuda	Bare-Handed
Tebaku	Fists Alone
Shu Jutsu	Kick Boxing
Torite	Restraining Technique
Torite (Different Kanji)	Restraining Technique
Toriai	Restraining Technique
Kumiai	Locked in Struggle
Kumiuchi	Locked in Combat
Kogusoku	Small Arms Fighting
Koshi Mawashi	Around the Waist
Taijutsu	Using the Body Techniques
Taijutsu (Different Kanji)	Using the Stomach
Yawara Jutsu	Soft Technique
Yawara (Different Kanji)	Soft Technique
Judo	Soft Way

The techniques that focus primarily on punching, striking or kicking are: Kenpo, Kenjutsu, Hakuda, Dashu, Hakuda and Shu Jutsu. The methods that focus on capture, holding and restraining are the Torite and Toriai techniques. Techniques that focus on grabbing hold, throwing, striking down and suppressing are Kumi Uchi, Kogusoku and Koshi Mawashi. Jujutsu Yawara Jutsu and Yawara all focus primarily on throws, strangling, suppression and joint locks.

空手　唐手

空手は拳法の一種にして　支那（唐）から琉球に傳はつた支那式拳法である、この拳法を琉球では　唐手と云つて盛んに行はれてゐたが　大正末期　日本内地に傳はり日本各地でも盛んに行はれる様になつたのである

昭和のはじめ　著者が或る会合の席での雑談中　拳法は徒手空拳以て敵を倒す術で　唐手も拳法の一つであるから　唐手と云ふより　空手と云ふほうがよいと云つた　其時全席してゐた著者の親友で唐手を教へてゐる某が　成程それが至當だと　以後　唐手を空手と改稱して行つた　それが今日空手の名稱で行はれてゐる由縁である

Karate

Karate is a kind of fighting technique that was imported from China to the Ryukyu Islands (Okinawa). At that time China was referred to as Kara. It is a Chinese style of fighting that uses both the hands and feet. This style of Ryukyu Kenpo became popular around the end of the Taisho Era (1912-1926) and spread to mainland Japan as Karate, or Chinese Hand style of fighting. It eventually became popular all over Japan.

During the following Showa Era (1926-1989) there was a writer attending a conference related to martial arts. While chatting with some people he overheard the following conversation:

Kenpo is fighting between two opponents whose hands are empty. Both Karate (Chinese Hand) and Kenpo (Fisticuffs) use these unarmed techniques to topple the enemy. So rather than using the Kanji 唐"Kara" representing China, we should be using the Kanji "Kara" 空 representing Empty.

A good friend of the writer who was sitting at the same table, who also happened to teach Karate, nodded in agreement and said,

That sounds about right to me!

After that Karate 唐手 (Chinese Hand) changed to Karate 空手 (Empty Hand.) That is how we ended up with the techniques of Karate being known as the Empty Hand style of fighting.

捕縄術　捕縛術

捕縄術は　人を捕へ縄を以つて縛る術で　一名　捕縛術　伽術　俳術とも云つた
支那では　綿縄套索と云ひ略して索とも云つた
捕縄術に用ゆる縄は　流派によつて長短はあるが　普通本縄は二丈五六尺　早
縄は一丈二三尺位の物が用ゐられてゐた
捕縄をかけるには　かける法式があつて　只何んでも縛ればよいと云ふわけには
行かなかつた　その身分に應じ　武家は武家　庶民は庶民　長袖は長袖　婦人は
婦人で　それ〴〵の定法があり　それによつて縛らなければ　縛る者も縛らるる
ものも共に恥辱とされたものである　かけ様は流派によつて多少名稱にもかけ方
にも相違はあるが　大体雑人には　十文字　割菱　違菱　上縄　出家には返し縄
社人には注連縄　山伏には笈摺縄　婦人には乳掛縄　小供には稚児縄　座頭に
は座頭縄　士には二重菱縄をかけ　對決には小手を留めない羽附縄　剛力者には
足固縄　縄抜けの巧みな者には留縄　罪人の追放請渡しには介縄　晒物には晒縄
斬罪の者には切縄をかけるのをならはしとしたものである

Arresting and Restraining With Rope

Hojo Jutsu, Taking with Rope Technique, is a set of techniques for seizing people and securing them with rope. Other names for these methods include Hobaku Jutsu, or Seizing and Tying, Togi Jutsu, or Holding Techniques. In China the system is known as Brocade Rope Lariat but often times abbreviated simply as Rope.

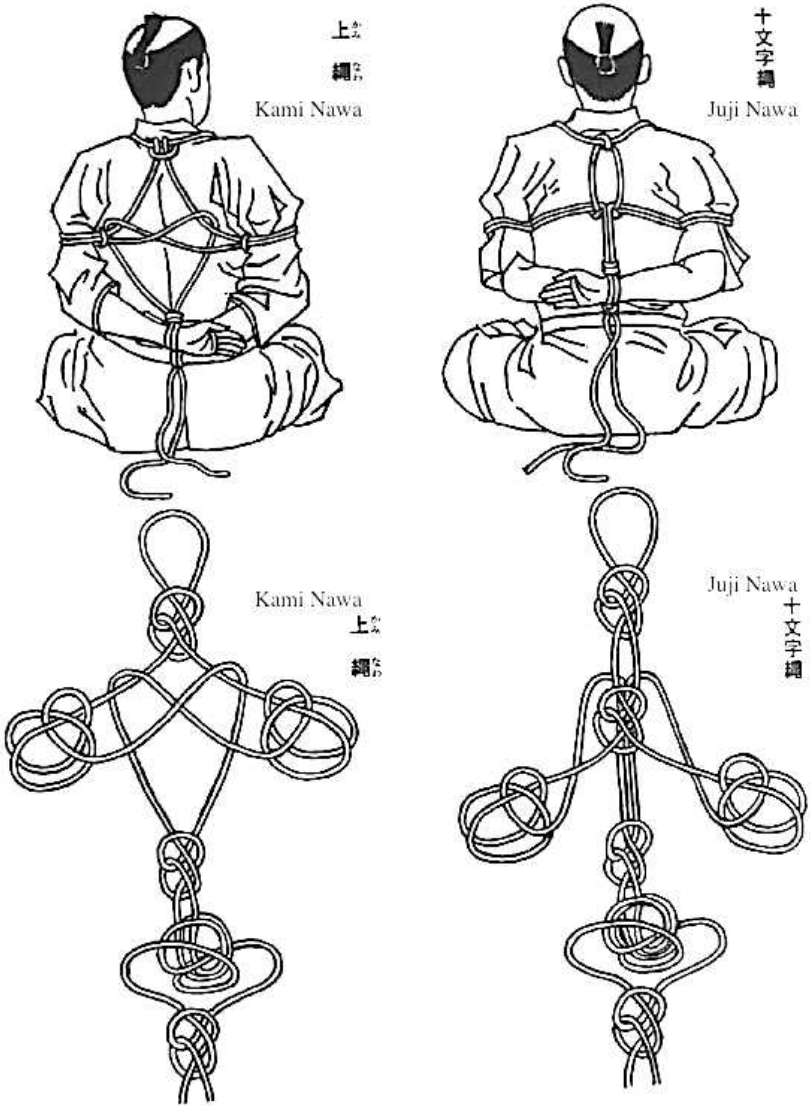
The cord used in Hojo Jutsu varies depending on the school, however it is typically a cord of around two Jo (One Jo = 3.03 meters) and 5 or 6 Shaku (One Shaku = 30.3 centimeters. Total length is 7.5~8 meters.) For Hayanawa, a faster abbreviated version of Hojo Jutsu, a shorter cord is used. It is around 1 Jo and 2 or 3 Shaku (3.5~4 meters.)

When tying someone you cannot just use any knot. There is a prescribed method and it can vary according to the person's status. Samurai are handled as Samurai and commoners are handled as commoners. If the person being restrained is a Long Sleeves, referring to lords or priests, they are restrained as Long Sleeves. Women are handled as women. There is a specific method of tying up each and every type of person. If a mistake is made then it is an embarrassment for both the person being tied up as well as the person making the arrest.

The names given to these methods vary from school to school but for the most part members of the general public are tied up with: Waribishi Nawa (Split Caltrop), Chigai Bishi (Reverse Caltrop), Kami Nawa (Top Rope) or Juji Nawa (Cross Shaped Rope.)

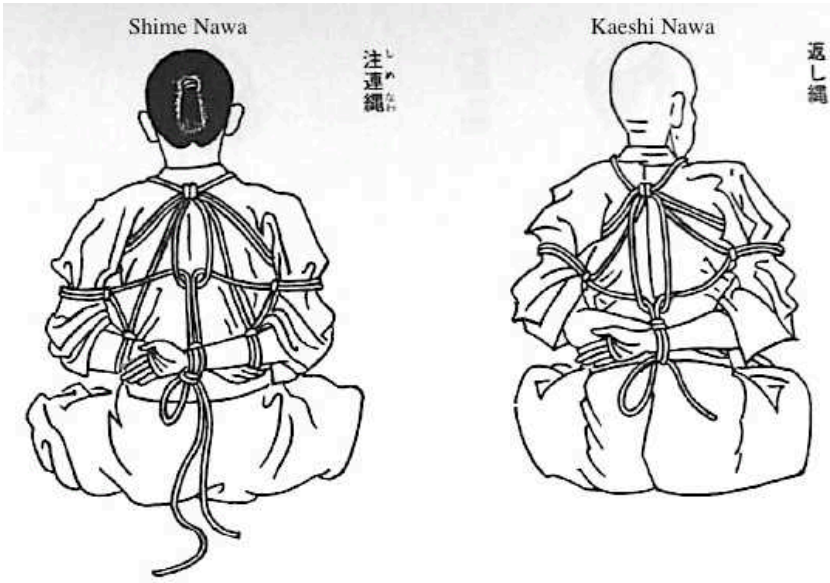
Waribishi Nawa

Chigai Bishi Nawa

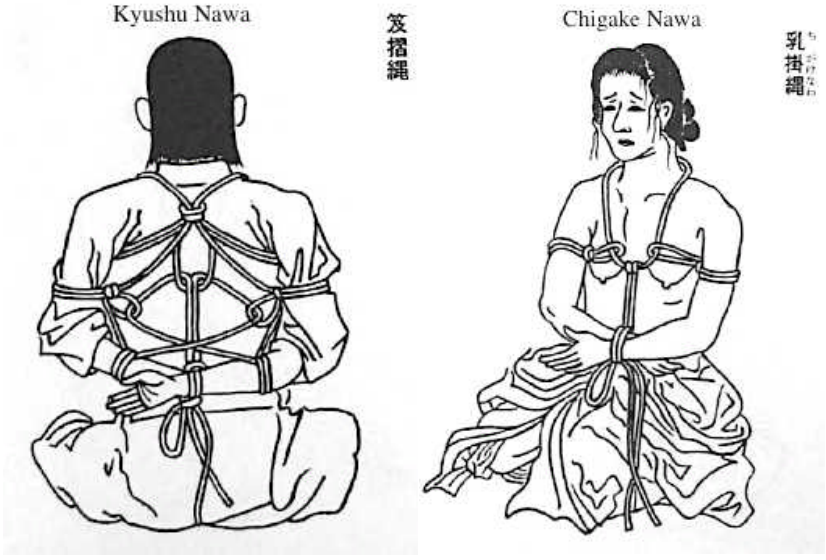


Note: All the images of restraining techniques are from Fujita Seiko's *An Illustrated Guide to Hojo* published in 1964. Some methods described did not provide illustrations.

Shukke, travelling monks are tied up with Kaeshi Nawa (Returning Rope) and Priests are tied up with Shime Nawa (Careful Repeating Rope.)

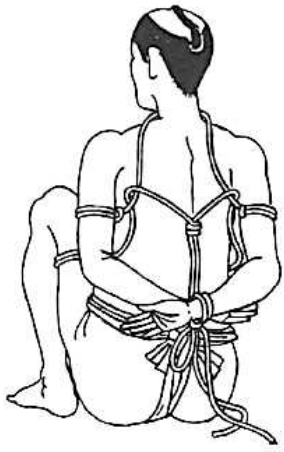


Mountain Ascetics are tied up with Oishu Nawa (Backpack Rope) and women are tied up with Chigake Nawa (Breast Rope.)



Blind Masseuses are tied with Blind Masseuse Rope. Children are tied up with Child Rope. Samurai are tied up with Ninju Hishi Nawa (Double Caltrop Rope.) Suspects who will face judgement before a Daimyo will not have their forearms bound but instead will have their upper arms secured in a Hazuke Nawa (Bird Wing/Full Nelson Rope.) Prisoners of great strength will have their legs bound with Ashitome Nawa (Leg Binding Rope.) Prisoners likely to slip their bonds will be secured with Tomari Nawa (Stopping Rope.)

Ashigatame Nawa



Hazuke Nawa

Niju Hishi Nawa

Tomari Nawa

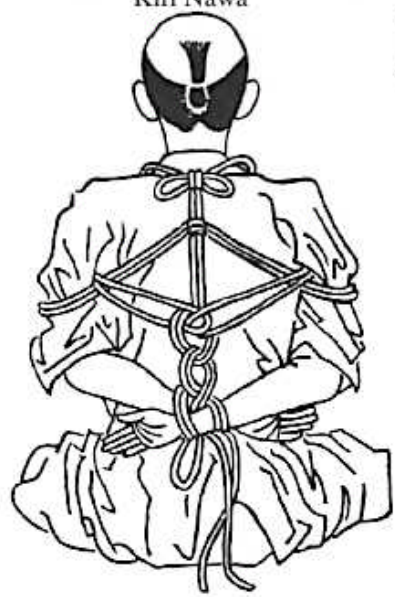
Criminals who are being banished or transferred to another area are escorted with a Tasuke Nawa (Assisting Rope.) People who expose themselves are tied up with Exposing Rope. Prisoners to be executed by beheading are tied with the Kiri Nawa (Cutting Rope.)

Tasuke Nawa

介縄

Kiri Nawa

切縄



鎗術

細長く鋭い剣（穂と云ふ）に長い柄をつけた武器（槍）を使つて敵とたゝかふ技術を鎗術と云ふ

鎗は大昔の鉾から変つたものであるが　其の形態によつて　月剋　山剋　立剋　轉丁　鋼叉　徒鎗　長鋒等の名がある

月剋と云ふのは　上代鋒共云　山剋は兩立鎩　立剋は片立鎩　轉丁は片立鎩鎗鋼叉は鐏鈸とも云ひ十文字鎗　徒鎗は直鎗（素鎗）を云ひ　長鋒は大身の鎗を云ふ　其他　管鎗　鈎鎗（鍵鎗）　半槍　手槍等がある

九

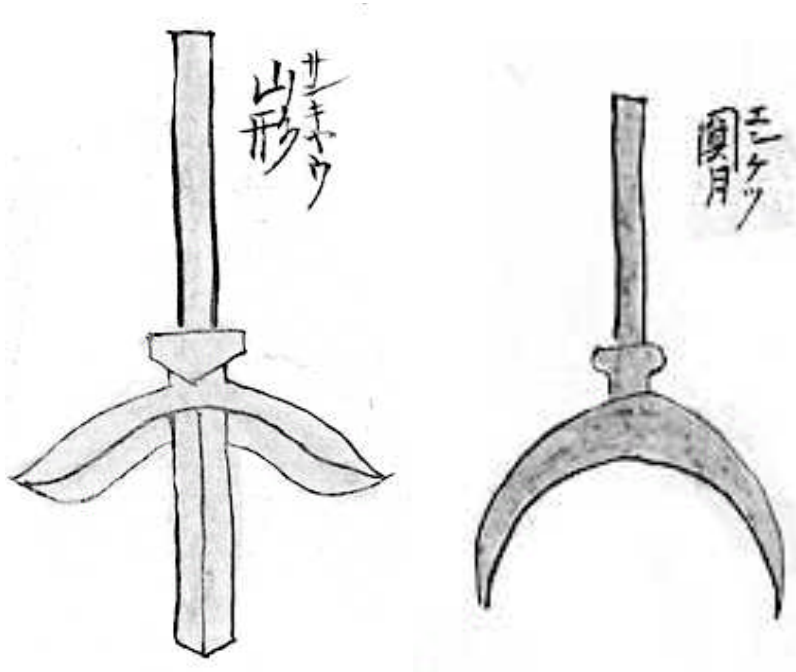
その術技も流派によつて異る　　干

支那でも　戟　鈀　鏢鎗　等種々あるが　戟と云ふのは　左右に枝の出てゐる槍で　十文字鎗の類を云ひ　鈀と云ふのは鈎のついた槍　佐分利流の様な鎗を云ひ　鏢鎗と云ふのは投げ鎗　半槍の類を云つたものである

Spear Fighting

Sojutsu, the art of fighting with a spear, is defined as methods of using a long pole equipped with a pointed blade called a Ho at the end. This weapon is called a Yari in Japanese. The Yari evolved long ago from the Halberd. Depending on the shape it can be called different things.

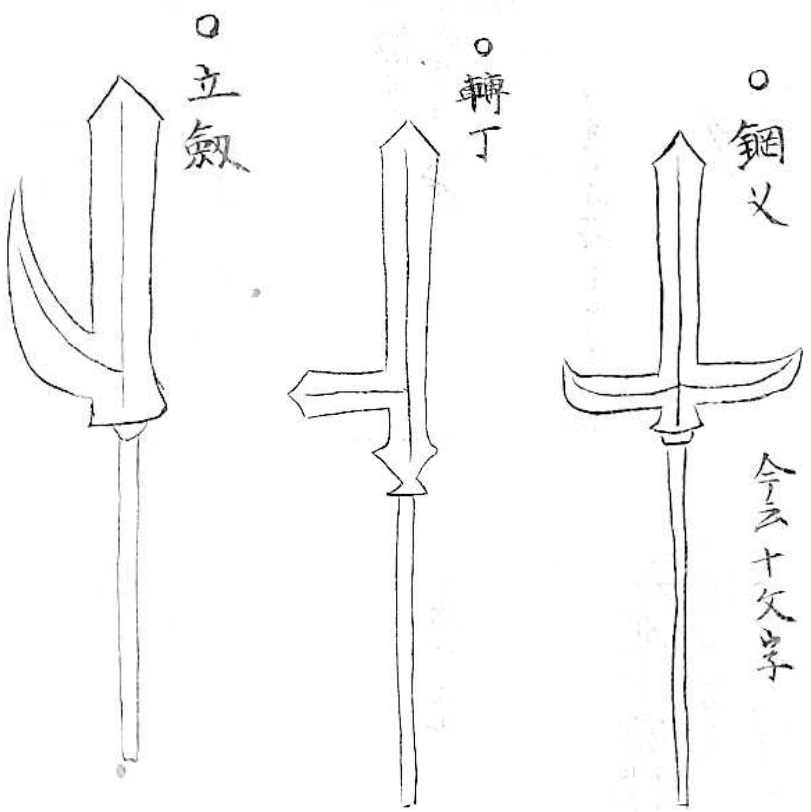
Some examples are Moon Blade, Mountain Blade, Standing Blade, Rotated 丁 (A Kanji resembling a capital T) Shaped Spear, Steel Spear, Blunted Spear, Foot Soldier's Spear and the Long Spear. There are others as well. The so-called Moon Blade Spear is also known as a Jodai Hoko which is a halberd-spear from ancient times.



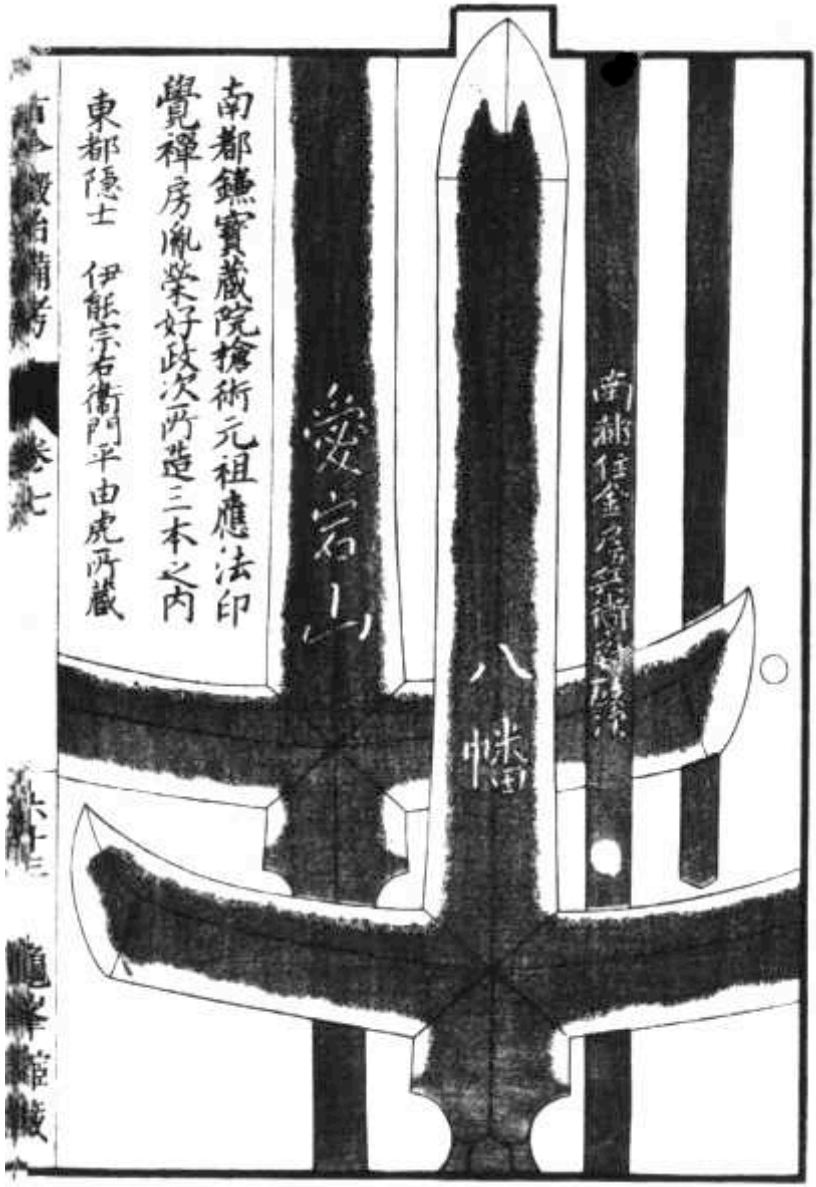
Left: The spearhead of a Sankyu, or Mountain Blade Spear. The end resembles the Kanji for mountain 山. The spearhead of a Engetsu, or Moon Spear. Here it is listed as a Rounded Moon Spear. From *An Illustrated Book of Armor* 1705.

The Ritsuken (Standing Spear, left illustration) has a sickle extending out one side.

The Tencho Yari (Rotated 丁 Shaped Spear, center) also has a sickle extending out one side. The Juji Yari, spear with a cross shaped blade, is also known as the Steel Spread Thigh Spear (right). The Note along the side says, "Nowadays it is also known as a Juji Yari.") or Blunted Spear.

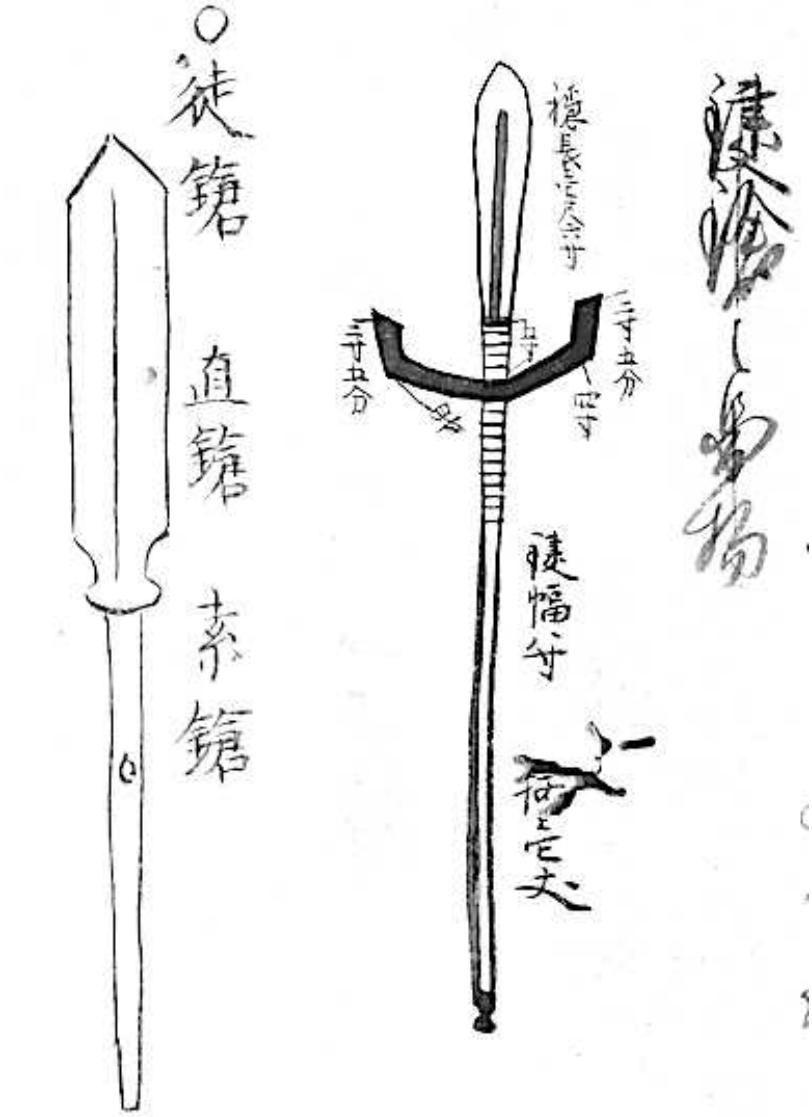


Illustrations from *The Record of Mysterious Learning*, 1845.

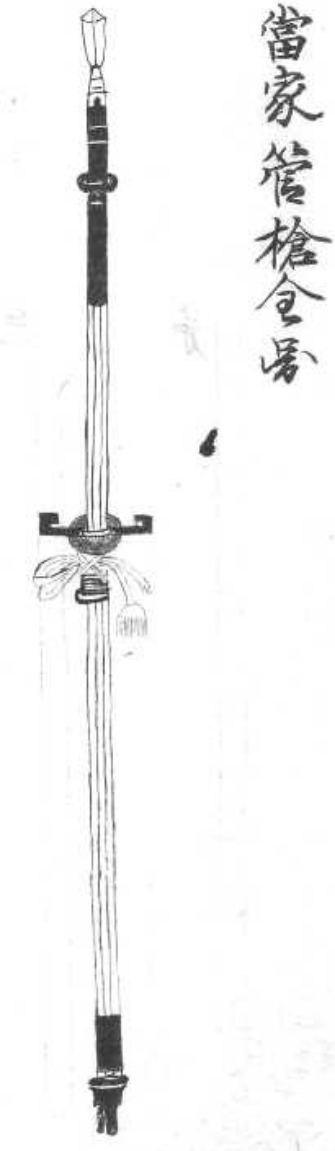


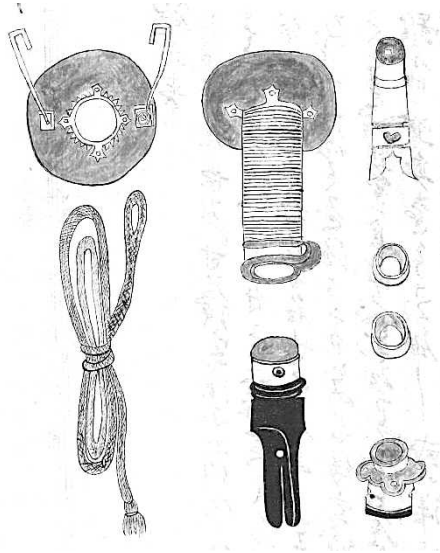
Illustrations of cross shaped spearheads the Edo Era book *Considerations on Forging Now and In The Past.* Note: This is a totally extraneous illustration but I had to go through an 800 page book to find this picture so here it is!)

The Foot Soldier's Spear is also known as the Plain Spear or Straight Spear. (See the illustration below, left. From *The Record of Mysterious Learning*, 1845) The Long Halberd Spear is also known as the Great Body Spear. There are also variations known as the Hook Spear or Key Spear, the Half Spear and the Hand Spear along with others. (Below right is an example Illustration of a Kagi Yari from an Edo Era *Hayashizaki School of Spear fighting* Scroll.)

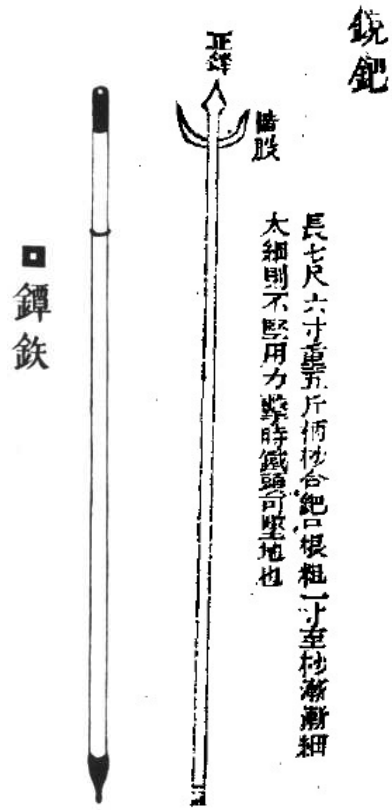


Other types of spears are the Kudayari. The Kudayari is a spear with a rope wrapped hand guard and loop to tie your hand to the spear. Illustration of a Kuda Yari (left) and the accoutrements for the center hand grip (right). From *A Brief Introduction to the Secret Teachings of the Spear* 1797.





The use of these spears varies from school to school. In China there are weapons called Halberd, Ha and Javelin and so on but these spears all have protrusions extending from both the left and right. Therefore they belong to the category of Cross Shaped Blade Spears. The spears represented by the Kanji 鈀 (Ha) are all basically Key or Hook spears and they would fall under the category of Saburi School Spears. Hyo Yari are typically throwing spears so they fall under the category of Javelin. Hyo Yari are used by soldiers in naval battles to attack the enemy on other ships. Half Spears also go under this category.



Left: Example of a Javelin, here referred to as a Throwing Iron, from the Edo Era book *Considerations on Forging Now and In The Past*
Right: A Javelin known as a "Sharp Javelin" with a cross shaped point.

薙刀術　長刀術

刀の幅の広く長く反つたものに　長い柄をつけた武器で　薙ぎ拂ふ用に供したので　奈岐奈太　奈加太刀　薙刀　長刀　などとも書かれ　形の上から　偃月刀　青龍刀とも云はれる

薙刀の種類には　大長刀　爪小長刀　両刃長刀　小反刃長刀　鉈長刀　無爪鉈長刀等がある

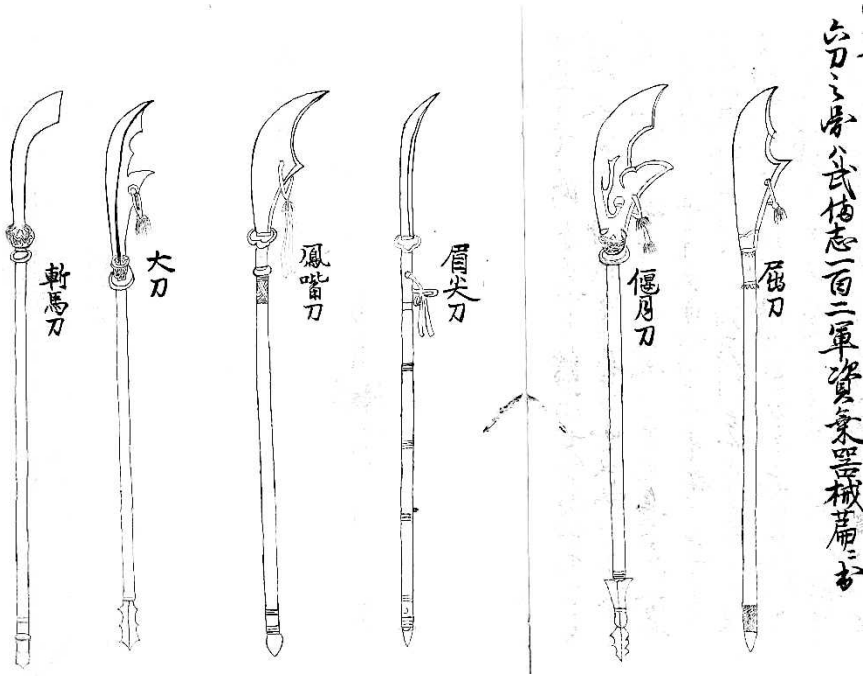
大長刀と云ふのは　刃の特に長大なものを云ひ　普通のものを小長刀といふ

小反刃長刀と云ふは　小長刀の殊に反つたものを云ふ　この外　筑紫薙刀といふ辻山城家傳來の長刀の形もあつた

長刀の柄の長さは一定してゐない　三尺五寸　五尺　六尺　一丈と種々ある

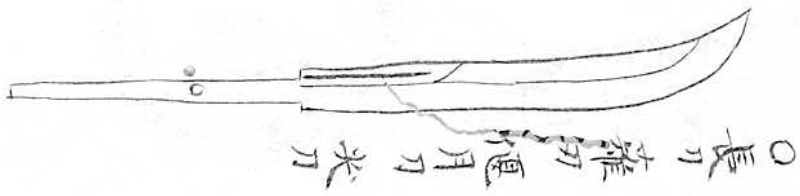
Halberd Techniques

The Naginata, or Halberd, is a long-handled weapon with a blade that is wider, longer and more curved than a Katana. The "Nagi" part of the name means "to mow down with a sweeping cut." It can be written in Kanji in a variety of ways, with either two or three characters. The names often reflect the shape of the blade. For example the Eyebrow Shaped Blade, Partial Moon Blade and Green Dragon Blade are also used.



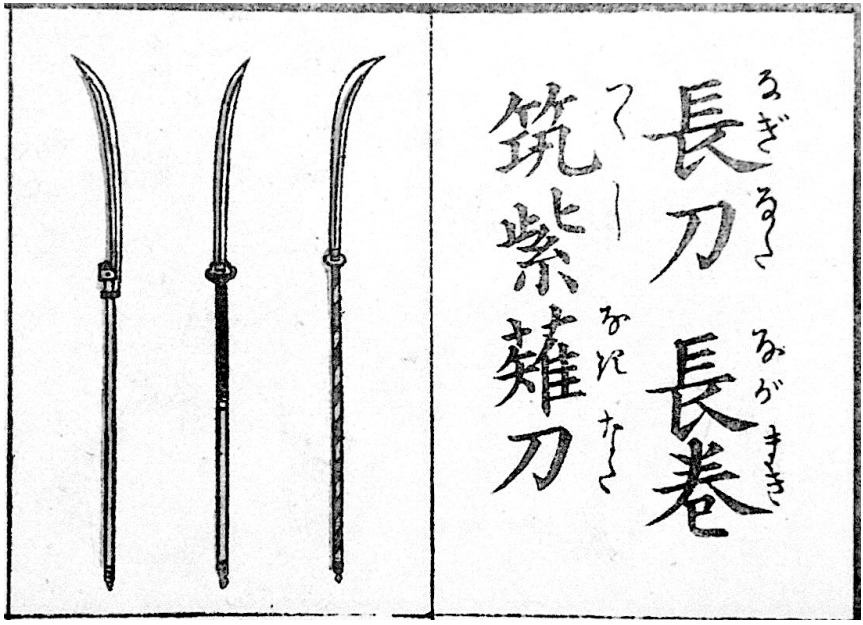
From left: Horse Chopping Blade, Great Blade, Phoenix's Beak Blade, Eyebrow Blade, Flattened Moon Blade and Dug Up Blade. These illustrations are from *A Brief Introduction to the Secret Teachings of the Spear* 1797, but this book copies the illustrations from the 17th Century Chinese book *The Complete Collection of Essential Military Classics*.

There are several kinds of Halberds such as the Great Halberd, Small Claw Halberd, Double Bladed Halberd, The Small Reversed Blade Halberd, The Hatchet Halberd, The Clawless Halberd and the Clawless Hatchet Halberd.



This Halberd has the name listed as Long Sword, Sweeping Cut Sword, Flat Moon Blade and Eyebrow Shaped Blade. Illustration from *The Record of Mysterious Learning*, 1845.

The Great Halberd is characterized by a particularly long blade. A normal sized halberd is thus often referred to as a small Halberd. A Small Reversed Blade Halberd is a Small Halberd with the blade reversed. In addition the shape of the Purple Flute Halberd comes to us from the Halberd developed by the Tsujiyama Family.



A Tsukushi Naginata (Purple Flute Halberd, left) next to a Halberd (center) and a Long Wrapped Sword (right). From the Edo Era book *Two Hundred Illustrations of Weapons*.

そしてこの長刀の構も　使ひ方も　流派によつてそれ〴〵の特長がある

穴澤流の扇體の構　新當流の手解きの形　常山一刀流の乳間の構　根岸流の八相の構　米田流の四天の構　直心影流の小脇構　等その一例であり　又　武甲流の石突留　天道流の一文字の乱　骨違剱　柳剛流の跳斬　等その流派の持つ特技の一例である

其他　薙刀術の構には　上段　中段　下段　霞上段　霞中段　横構　脇構　立構　拂八方　薙刀方　瀧の一曲　獅子の高臥　水車　風車　花車　等があり　その体勢（構）から　撃突薙拂攻防千変萬化の技術は枚挙に遑ない

The length of the handle attached to the Halberd can vary since there is no prescribed length. Some handles measure 3 Shaku and 5 Sun, others 5 or 6 Shaku and even 1 Jo.

The Kamae, or stances with the weapon, as well as the way it is used can vary depending on the focus of the school. I would like to introduce a Kamae, or stance, and technique from some different Ryu/ Ryuha or schools of martial arts. Anazawa Ryu has Fan Body Stance, Shinto Ryu has Hand Release Stance, Tuneyama Itto Ryu has Between the Breast Stance, Negishi Ryu has Eight Stages Stance, Yoneda Ryu has the Four States of Heaven Stance and Chokushin Kage Ryu has Small Stance Stance. In addition, Takeko Ryu has Stabbing and Stopping a Rock, Tendo Ryu has One Character Riot and Remaining Bone Sword, Ryuko Ryu has Leaping Cut.

In addition other Halberd stances are Upper Stance (the Halberd is held up), Middle Stance, Lower Stance, Mist Upper Stance, Mist Middle Stance, Side Stance, Thigh Stance, Standing Stance, Eight Way Stance, Four Way Sweep Stance, Bending Like a Waterfall Stance, Lion Pouncing On A Person, Waterwheel, Festival Cart and so on. Depending on the Taisei (positioning of the body) the Kamae (Stance) is used to hack, stab, cut-down, sweep, attack, defend or any of ten-thousand possible variations.

銃剣術　銃槍術

小銃の先に剣を付けて突き合ふ武術を銃剣術又は銃槍術といふ　この銃剣術はフランスのルイ十四世頃に始まつたもので　日本の銃剣術も始めは欧洲から輸入したものであるが　其後　日本の槍術を採り入れて　日本式銃剣術となつたものである

廿

Bayonet

Juken Jutsu (Bayonet Techniques) Juyari Jutsu (Rifle Spear Techniques): The martial arts that involves attaching a sword to the end of a rifle and then using it to stab is Juken Jutsu or Ju Yari Jutsu. Bayonet fighting originated in 14th century France. Bayonet fighting techniques began in Japan when firearms were introduced from Europe or shortly thereafter. Eventually elements of Japanese Spear fighting found their way into the techniques and Japanese Style Bayonet fighting evolved.

棒術

棒を武器として自己を防衛し　敵を攻撃する武術を　棒術と云ふ

この棒術は　日本ばかりではなく　世界各國何處でも古くから行はれてゐた様である　支那の掘法等その一例である

この棒は古くは掘棒とも云ひ　槍折れとも云はれた　その棒の使ひ方（攻防戦闘の術技）を棒の手とも云つた　棒の手は流派によつて　その使用の棒も猶へも術技も多少異つてゐる　又　棒術に類するものに杖術　乳切木術　半棒術　手棒術等がある　これ等の諸術は　その武器として用ゆる棒の寸法によつて名稱を異にしたものである　もとより使用武器によつて術技も相違する

これを寸法順に並べて見ると

掘と云ふのは八尺　棒は六尺　杖は（杖術の処に示す）　乳切木（これも乳切木術の処に示す）半棒は三尺　手棒は一尺三寸から一尺五寸位　痍（なやし　ひしぎ）は一尺二三寸位　六寸は六寸　手の内は四五寸位のもの

この内　六寸　手の内等は最早棒の類ではなく　握り物と云ふ武器の類で　手の内に握つてたゝかふものである　これには　三鈷　陰拳　五輪碎　微塵　他力等がある

Staff Techniques

The martial art that uses a wooden staff as a weapon to attack and defend yourself against an enemy is called Bojusu. This method is not unique to Japan, indeed it probably existed in every country from long ago. For example the Staff Techniques from China are known as the Kon Staff Techniques.

Long ago in Japan, the Bo was called Konbo. It is said it developed from a broken spear. In fact it was originally called Yari-Ore, Broken Spear. Later, the techniques of using the Staff, for offence and defense, came to be known as The Way of the Staff. Depending on the school, the handling of the Staff as well as the stances of The Way of the Staff can differ.

In addition there are different types of Staff. There is Jo Jutsu (Three-Quarters Staff Techniques), Chigiriki Jutsu (Literally "Up to the Breast Staff." Which often has a chain or blade attached), Hanbo Jutsu (Half Staff Techniques), Tebo Jutusu (Hand Staff /Club Techniques.) The name of the weapon changes depending on its size and, correspondingly the way the weapon is handled also differs. I have listed the Staff weapons according to their size, they are as follows:

The Chinese Kon staff is 8 Shaku (240 centimeters) in length. A Japanese Bo (Staff) is 6 Shaku (180 centimeters). A Jo (Three-Quarters Staff) and Chigiriki (Up to the Breast Staff) will be explained in the next sections. The Hanbo (Half Staff) is 3 Shaku (90 centimeters) and the Tebo (Hand Staff/Club) is somewhere between 1 Shaku and 3 Sun to 1 Shaku and 5 Sun (40~55 centimeters.) There is also a weapon called a Nayashi, or Hishigi, meaning "The Paralyzer." It is typically 1 Shaku and 2 or 3 Sun (36 centimeters.

Six Sun is six Sun (19centimeters). The amount you actually hold with your hands is only four or five Sun (12~15 centimeters.) That is all you are using is six Sun worth of space. The handling of the Staff is not entirely about speed. You also have to be aware of where you are gripping and why. Some examples of the techniques are Three By Two Necks, Moon Fist, Crushing the Five Wheels, Pulverize and so on.

Note: The last paragraph was strangely abrupt as if it was unfinished.

杖術

杖術は　その杖の先もなければ後もなく　後かと見れば先になし　先かと見れば後になる様　引いては撃ち　突いては薙ぐ　千変万化の操作技法によって敵を攻撃する武術である

この杖術に用ゆる杖の太さは　大体直径八分から一寸までのものを用ひてゐるが　長さは流派によって相違があり一定してゐない　自分の脊丈を定寸とするもの　目の高さ迄を定寸とするもの　肩の高さ迄を定寸とするもの　太刀の長さに八寸から一尺の長さを加へた長さ四尺二寸を定寸としたもの等がある

杖の形態にも　丸いまゝのものを用ゆる流派の方が多いが　中には八角にしたもの　中央を太めて両端に行く程細くしたもの　中央を細め両端に行く程太めにしたもの等を用ゆる流派もある

Three Quarters Staff

Jo Jutsu is techniques using the Three Quarters Staff. When using the Jo, there is neither front nor back. One end may seem like the front but it is the back, the back is really the front. When it seems you are pulling back, you are actually striking. When it seems you are stabbing in, you are actually doing a sweeping strike. This is a martial art that has a hundred thousand ways to attack the opponent.

While diameter is generally from 8 Bun to 1 Sun (2.4~3 centimeters) the length of the Jo varies from school to school. Some schools of martial arts say it should be equivalent to your height, while others say when one end is placed on the ground the other end should be level with your eyes. Others say the height of your shoulder is proper. One school says that you should find the proper size by adding somewhere between 8 Sun and 1 Shaku (23~30 centimeters) of length to your Tachi. This would result in a Jo that is 4 Shaku and 2 Sun (125 centimeters.) There are other possibilities as well.

The shape of the Jo can also vary depending on the school. While perfectly round Jo are common there are some schools that utilize a hexagonally shaped Jo. A certain school has a Jo that is fatter in the middle and tapers off toward the ends. Another is thicker at the ends and tapers toward the middle. There are other variations as well. Each school has its own unique method of using the Jo.

その術技も流派によつて獨特の使ひ方をするものもある

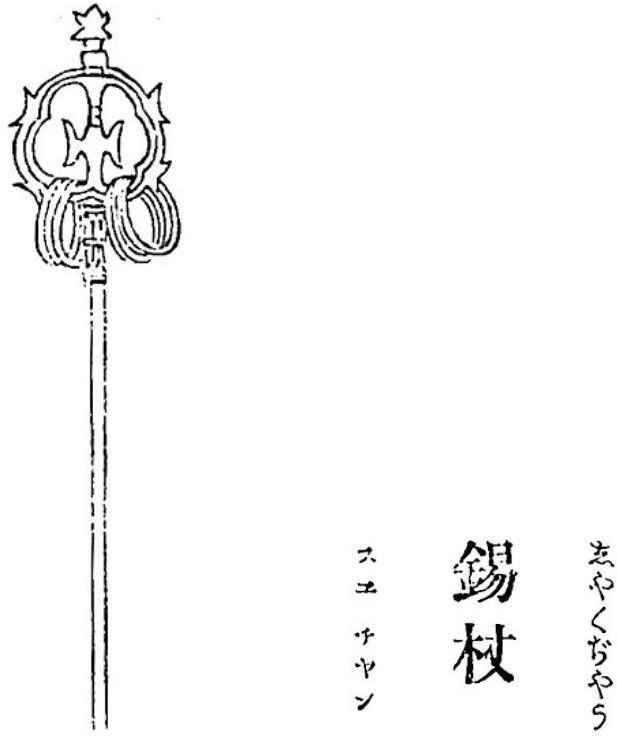
杖術に類するものに　半棒術がある　半棒術は六尺棒の半分三尺を定寸とした棒を以てたゝかふ武術で術技も杖術に似てはゐるが多分に相違がある　又　ステツキ術と云つて　ステツキを利用して行ふ護身武術　修験者等が專問に特つ金剛杖（杖）を以て行ふ金剛杖術　捕物を專らとする捕杖の術等がある

鉄鏝　鉄杖（金材棒）を以てする鉄杖術は　木の杖（材棒）を使つてたゝかふ術技とは多分に術技にも相違がある

Hanbo Jutsu, or Half Staff Techniques, fall under the topic of Three Quarters Staff Techniques. A Hanbo is exactly half of a 6 Shaku Bo, so the length is 3 Shaku. In many ways fighting with the Hanbo resembles fighting with the Jo, though there are some differences.

There are also techniques using a walking stick. This Walking Stick Technique is a martial art that consists of using an everyday walking stick to defend yourself. In addition there is the Metal Three Quarters staff unique to followers of Shugendo. The Kongojo as it is called in Japanese is primarily used as a capturing and subduing weapon.

There is also a separate category for metal versions of these weapons. Examples are techniques with the Iron Whip and The Iron Three Quarters Staff (also known as the Metal Jo or Bo.) There are no doubt differences in the way the techniques done with a wooden Jo (or Bo) and a metal Jo are done.



An example of the metal (actually tin) staff used in Shugendo. From the 18th century *Illustrated Sino-Japanese Encyclopedia.*

三道具（捕物具）

捻止　釱棒　挟箙　の三道具を三ツ道具と云つて　昔は専ら捕物具として用ひた

この三道具は　天地人三才の道具と云ひ　捻止は　天　上とし　釱棒は　地下とし　挟箙は　人　中として三種一組を一對とした

流派によつて　捻止（ネジ）は　鋸（モジリ）狼牙棒（モジリ）　毛知利（モジリ）　袖搦　ヒネリ

The Three Tools (Capturing Tools)

The Nejitome (Screw Stopper), Kugibo (Nail Staff) and Sasumata (Arresting Pole) are known as San Dogu or the Three Tools.

In the past they were used exclusively for capturing and restraining criminals. Together they are known as the Ten・Chi・Jin・Sansai, or the Three Domains: Heaven, Earth and Human representing all things in the universe.

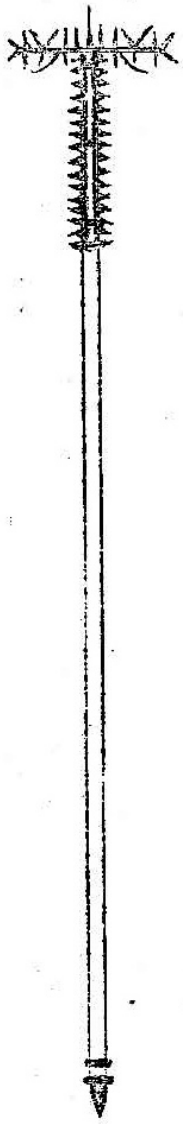
The Nejitome, or Screw Stopper, represents Heaven. It is above. The Kugibo, or Nail Staff, is Earth because it is below. The Sasumata, or Arresting Pole, is Human because it is in between Heaven and Earth. These three types form a whole and are in opposition to one another.

Depending on the Ryuha, or school, the Screw Stopper can be simply as Neji, a Twister. Other names are Mojiri (Rake), Mojiri (Wolf Tooth Staff), Mojiri (rendered phonetically in Kanji), Sode Karami (Sleeve Tangler) or Hineri (no Kanji).

Heaven	Human	Earth
Screw Stopper	Arresting Pole	Nail Staff
Nejitome	Sasumata	Kugibo

挾膜は　刺股　鉄叉　左須末太　長脚鑽（サスマタ）　柱（コジ）　琴弛　琴柱棒（コトジ）

釱棒は　突棒　鉄把　鉄棒　鉄扒



等の別名や文字が使はれてゐる　その製作方式も流派によつて多少の変形あり術技方式にも相違がある

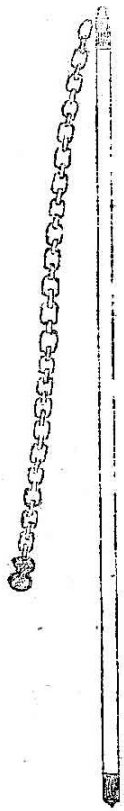
The Sasumata, Arresting Pole, is also written as Sasumata (Stabbing Thighs), Tetsumata (Steel Thighs), Sasumata (written phonetically in Japanese), Sasumata (Long Legged Pole), Kotoji (This is a Kanji referring to the bridge of the Japanese Koto Harp), Kotoji (written phonetically in Japanese), Kotoji (written phonetically in Japanese, references the bridge of a Japanese Koto Harp.)

The Kugibo, Nail Staff. Also known as the Tsukibo, Stabbing Staff, Tetsuha (Iron Rake) Tetsubo (Iron Staff) and Tetsuha (Iron Rake).

There are other names for these tools and additional ways of writing them in Kanji. Further, depending on the school, the manner of construction, shape and usage may differ.

乳切木術　振杖術　鎖杖術

長さ四尺余の棒の先端に分銅の付いた鎖をつけた武器で　一名　振杖　鎖杖　共
又は玉仕懸とも云ふ　この武器を以てたゝかふ武術を　乳切木術（契木術　知木
力術）　振杖術　鎖杖術　とも云ふ



乳切木と云ふ語原は　昔　防禦の爲めに用ゐる棒の長さは　その用ゆる人の乳
の処迄の寸法を最も使ひよいものとして　乳の処に合せて切り　これを乳切木棒
と云つて用ひた

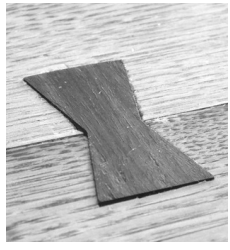
又　鎖杖の多くは　この乳切木の棒先に鎖でつける分銅は　大低中括（かぎり）の立鼓形
滕（ムギリ）〔　〕形の分銅をつけたものを用ひてゐるから滕器（ムギリキ）と云つたとも云ふ　又この
鎖分銅を敵に打ちかけ　チギリ切ると云ふ意で名付けられたとも云はれてゐる
鎖心明知流では　鎖分銅の分銅を　立鼓形の滕（ムギリ）に似た分銅をつけてゐる　この
流では鎖分銅のことを　乳切リキ　と云つてゐる

Three Quarters Staff With Weighted Chain

Chigiri Jutsu (Breast Tall Staff With Weighted Chain Techniques)
Furijo Jutsu (Spinning Three Quarters Staff Techniques)
Kusarijo Jutsu (Three Quarters Staff With Chain Techniques)

This weapon consists of a 4 Shaku (120 centimeter) staff with a weight called a Fundo (Copper Mass) attached to a chain fastened to the end. The Chigiri is also known as a Furijo, Kusarijo or a Tama Shikake (Weighted Ball Attached). The techniques that use the Chigiri are known as Chigiri Jutsu (also written phonetically two additional ways). It is also referred to as Furijo Jutsu and Kusarijo Jutsu.

Long ago it was said that the length of the Chigiri that offered the best protection was one that came up to just the breast of the person using it. A staff would be cut off right at the nipple and that is why the Kanji for *breast* is the first Kanji, *cut* the second and *stick* the third. The weight on the end, called a Fundo, is typically shaped like an upright Tsutsumi Style drum, with a depression on either side. Since the shape looks like the Chigiri joints used in Japanese carpentry they are called Chigiri shaped.



Left: A Tsutsumi Drum from Kyoto. Center: A Chigiri joint used in Japanese Carpentry. Right: Drawing of the weight by Fujita Seiko.

In addition, if the weighted chain is used to strike an opponent it will result in a Chigiri-kiri or ripping cut, another source of the name of this weapon. The Kyoshinmeichi School of Martial Arts calls the chain with the weight on the end of it the Chigiriki. The weight on the end of the chain used by this school is a standing Tsutsumi drum shape with a depression on either side.

十手術

十手は等ら捕物具として用ひたもので　十の手を合せた程有功なものであると云ふ処から　十手と名づけられたものであると云ふ

鉄鞭　卦算（ケサン）　鉄簡に類する武器の一種で　十手　實手　鉢割　十當　水刀　鉄當　鉄刀　鉄銻　等流派によつても名稱が異る　支那琉球等で用ゆる釵等もその一種である

十手の長さは　大低一尺二三寸位を定寸とする　それは手の握りから肘迄の長さに合せたものである　敵が刀で斬つてくるのを鉄身で受け肘先の方へ外す　手元の方に流れてくれば鉄身についてゐる太刀モギで刀身を受け挾み敵の身辺に付入つて捕へる　紐は手にからめておいて　組打などの場合でも身体から離れぬ用にしたり　其他打ち付け　塀乗り等　用途非常に多い

芒

Police Truncheon Techniques

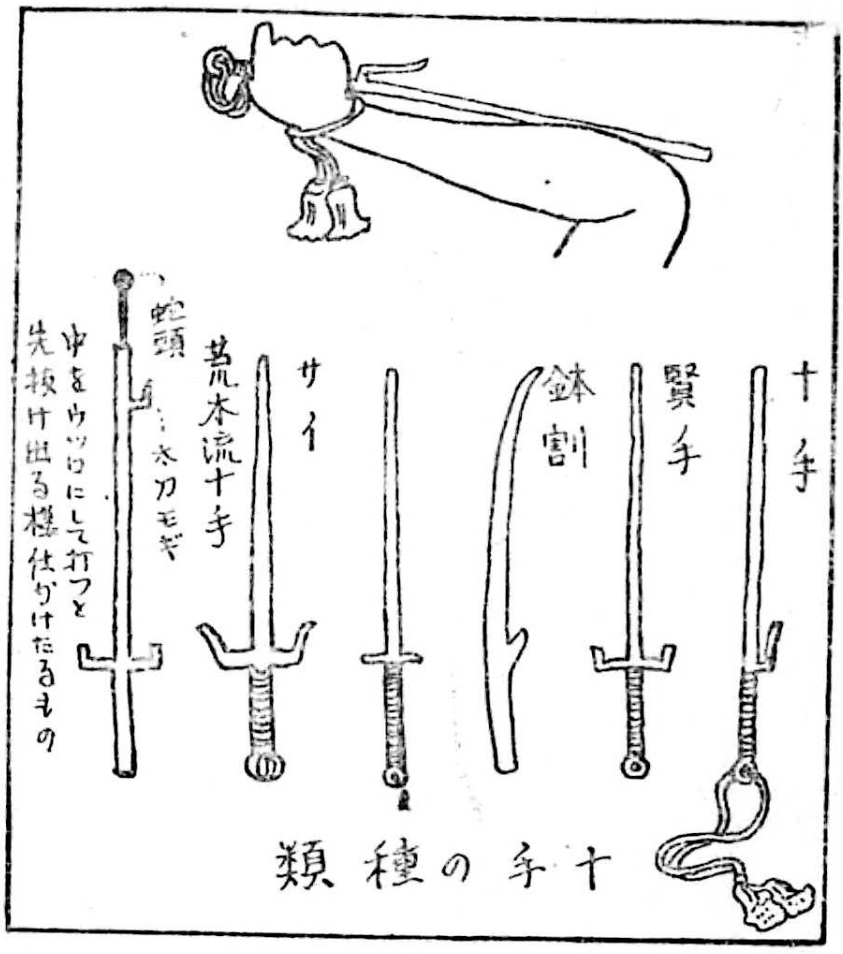
The Kanji for the Police Truncheon are 十 *ten* and 手 *hand.* The Jutte is used exclusively for the capture and restraining of criminals. The origin of the name is said to be that it is as effective as having ten hands.

The Jutte belongs to the category of weapons that includes the Iron Whip, the Ruler and the Iron Bamboo Stave. The for this weapon can vary according to the school that teaches it.

Some of those names include Jitte (a variant reading of the same Kanji), Jitte (Real Hand), Hachi Wari (Bowl Splitter, with the bowl referring to the crown of the head), Jutte (phonetically rendered), Suito (Water Sword), Tetsuatari (Iron Striker), Tetsuto (Iron Sword), Tettei (Iron Shaft) and so on. It is similar to the Sai used in China and the Ryukyu islands.

The length of a Police Truncheon is typically 1 Shaku and 2 or 3 Sun in length (36-40 centimeters). It varies because the Jutte should be the same length as the distance from closed fist to your elbow. When the enemy cuts down on you with his sword, meet it with the iron body of the truncheon and allow it to deflect towards your elbow. If you are able to have the blade slide towards the bottom of the iron shaft, you will be able to catch the opponent's blade in the iron hook at the bottom. By scissoring the enemy's sword between the iron rod and the hook, you can capture both the sword and the opponent.

The purpose of the cord at the end is to fasten the truncheon to your wrist. This will prevent it from being taken away from you if you get into a tussle with a criminal. There are many ways of striking with the Jutte and it can also be used to scale walls. There are myriad other uses.



Examples of Jutte from Fujita Seiko's 1942 book, *From Ninjutsu to Spy Warfare*. The top image shows one way to receive a sword strike. From right to left the images are: Police Officer's Truncheon, a Sword Breaker, a Bowl Splitter, untitled, Sai and an Araki School Jutte. The top of the Araki School Jutte is called the snake's head, below that on the right is the sword catch. The snake's head can extend as a kind of sneak attack.

手裏剣術

手裏剣術は　手裡剣術　手離剣術　投剣術　撃剣術とも云はれる様に　剣を投げ撃ち敵を倒す術である　支那では　銑餌　鏢　三不過術とも云ふ

武器として用ゆる手裏剣の形態には　針形　釘形　短刀形　槍の穂形等種々あり　流派によつてもその流派獨特の形態あり一様でない

打法には直打法と廻轉法の二種がある

剣先を指先の方にして打つを直打法　剣先を掌の中の方にして打つを廻轉法と云ふ

打方にも　正常打　横打　逆打の三法ある

投撃を加へる個処は　眉間　両眼　人中　咽喉　心臓部　乳部　水落　脇腹　臍部としてゐる

Shuriken Techniques

Shuriken (Inside the Hand Blade) throwing techniques are known variously as Sly Raccoon Dog, Blade Techniques, Shuriken Jutsu (phonetically rendered), Token Jutsu (Throwing Blade Techniques) as well as Gekiken Jutsu (Striking Blade Techniques.)

As the name Striking Blade Techniques suggests, this method involves throwing a knife to take down an opponent. In China, Shuriken were part of the Three Extreme Techniques. The Extreme Techniques use either Shuriken or a Javelin.

As a weapon, the Shuriken is typically forged into a needle shaped, nail shaped, short sword shaped, spear head shaped and so on. There are many varieties. Each school may have its own particular shape and there is no set form.

The Shuriken is thrown in two ways: Straight Throw or Spinning throw. The Straight Throw Method means you have the blade of the Shuriken facing the same direction as your fingertips. If you are doing a Spinning throw, then the blade of the Shuriken should be facing your palm.

There are three varieties of strikes: Straight Strike, Side Strike and Reverse Strike. The target you aim for can be any of the following: Between the Eyebrows, Both Eyes, Jinchu (the spot known as "The Center of a Person" just below the nose), the throat, the area above the heart, the breast, the solar plexus, the side and the navel. Examples of Shuriken and throwing techniques from Fujita Seiko's 1942 book *From Ninjutsu to Spy Warfare* are below.

含針術

含針術は　長さ二寸余の道具の中に　長さ一寸四分　径四厘の針　百本を入れて置いて　敵の顔面　両眼　手足等に吹き付け　その両眼をつぶしたり　苦痛を與へ戦闘力を喪失させる技で　その道具の造り方と　針の入れ方等に秘傳がある丈で別にたいした修練を要しない　これに毒針藥を入れて用ふる時は　相手を容易に死に至らしむることも出來る　毒藥法口伝　有効距離は一間半余

Needle Filled Shooter Technique

Fukumibari Jutsu, or Needle Filled Shooter Technique, uses a tool that is only 2 Sun (6 centimeters) across, filled with 100 needles that are 1 Sun and 1 Bun length (Just over 3.5 centimeters) and about 4 Ri in diameter (0.06 centimeters.) They can be blown into the face, eyes, hands or other parts of the body. If they get into the enemy's eyes they will blind him and cause intense pain, resulting in a loss of fighting ability and spirit.

Though way the tool is manufactured as well as how the needles are loaded and so on are closely guarded secrets, the device does not require a lot of training. If poisoned needles are used then it will almost certainly result in the death of the enemy. The method of making the poison is a Kuden, an orally transmitted secret. The effective range of the Fukumibari is about 1.5 Ken (2.7 meters.)

吹針術　吹矢術

吹矢術は　吹矢筒（短いのは一尺五六寸より　長いのは三四尺位）の中に　筒　世矢（筒と筒矢の製法は秘傳）を入れ　その矢を敵に吹きつけて斃す術で（これも余り修練せずとも命中率は大である）その矢先に毒を塗つて用ゆ　この矢に當れ勿論即死　當らずといへ皮膚の一部分に　かすり創をおはせた丈でも数時間の中には必ず死に至らしむ　有效距離二間余　毒矢藥の製法は口伝

Needle Blowing Techniques and Blow Dart Techniques

Fukushin Jutsu, or Needle Blowing Techniques, use a Blowgun. Short Blowguns are around 1 Shaku and 6 Sun (48 centimeters) and long ones are 3 or 4 Shaku in length (90~120 centimeters.) A Tube Arrow is slid into the Blowgun. The manufacture of this Tube Arrow is a secret teaching. This technique involves blowing the arrow at the enemy in order to kill them. Even without extensive practice the average person can strike with accuracy.

It is also possible to paint the tip of the arrow with poison. By doing so, any person struck with the arrow will immediately die. Even a glancing blow, if it succeeds in breaking the skin will result in death after a few hours. The weapon is effective up to a range of 2 Ken (3.5 meters.) The method to craft the poison is a Kuden, orally transmitted secret.

鉄輪術

直径一尺四五寸余の金輪で　下部握りの部分を残した内側半円以上は　全部鋭利な双の付いた武器　これを一個づつ両手に持つて横へ外側では尊ら敵双を受け流し　機を見てはこの金輪を敵の　首　腕　足等にすばやく引掛けては引き切る

この金輪の細い双のない径一尺二三寸位のものに　長柄を付けた捕物具もある

Iron Ring Techniques

Kanawa Jutsu uses a metal ring about one Shaku and four Sun across (42 centimeters.) Except for a portion at the bottom where you grip, the entire inside of the ring is a sharpened blade. This is what the Iron Ring weapon is. One would be held in each hand and the outer part of the ring used to deflect sword cuts away. When the user sees an opening the ring can be rapidly slipped around the enemy's neck, arm or leg. A hard pull will cut the part off.

There is a version of the Kanawa that has no blade. It is about one Shaku and two or three Sun across (36~39 centimeters) and attached to the end of a long pole as a capturing device.

鎖鎌術　鎌鎌術　鏈鎌術

鎖鎌術とは　長さ一尺二三寸位の柄の先に　双渡り五六寸の鎌をつけ　その鎌の頭端上部か柄の下端部に鎖を附け　其の鎖の先端に鉄丸（重さ二十匁から五十匁位迄の分銅）を附けた武器（鎖鎌と云ふ）を以てたゝかふ武術で　片手に鎌の附いた柄を握つて構へ　片手で分銅のついた鎖を振つて　分銅を對手の頭部　顔面に打ちつけたり　武器に巻きつけて奪つたり　引き寄せたりして　鎌で敵の首を掻く武術である

この鎖鎌は　陰陽日月を象つて造つたもので　鎌は月　陰　球（分銅）は日陽を象どり　それを三百六十五個　即ち一年十二月分の鎖を以て繋ぐ　柄は八角にして八方を象どり　責め金四ヶ所にして四季を象どるのが鎖鎌の本形である　そして陽の球を発して敵を打ち　陰の鎌を以て引き斬る　これが鎖鎌術の本旨である

蒙古では人の首を斬るのに今尚鎌を以てするが　上古聖徳太子（当時中大兄皇子）が蘇我馬子を誅した時は　やはり鎌を以て首を斬つたとある　昔は刀でなく鎌で人を斬つたのである

相州　北條氏の家臣　磯部某が　初めてこの鎖鎌を使つたといはれてゐる

Chain and Sickle Techniques

The Kanji for Chain can be written three different ways: 鎖,鏈 or 鏁. Chain and Sickle Technique uses a wooden handle approximately 1 Shaku and 2 or 3 Sun (36~39 centimeters) with a sickle blade 5 or 6 Sun (15~18 centimeters) in length attached. A chain is attached either to the uppermost portion of the sickle or to the bottom of the handle. At the end of the chain there is an iron ball weighing between 30 Monme and 50 Monme (112~187 grams.) This part is known as a Fundo, copper weight.

The weapon known as a Kusarigama, or Chain and Sickle, is used in combat by holding the handle of the sickle in one hand and the other hand spinning the chain with the weight on the end. Strike the head or face of the opponent with the weight and tangle up their weapon. Pulling towards you, use the sickle to swipe their head off.

The Chain and Sickle was created to represent Yin and Yang, the moon and sun. The Sickle represents the moon or Yin the shadow. The Sphere, represented by the weighted ball at the end, represents the Yang and the sun. The 365 links of the chain stand as the number of days in a year. In other words, there are enough links on the chain to connect all twelve moons in a year.

The handle of the sickle is octagonal, with each of the eight sides representing a direction of the compass and therefore all directions. The four rivets that attach the chain to the sickle represent the four seasons. All of this is worked into the shape of the Kusarigama.

Even now in Mongolia when cutting someone's head off they use a sickle. Long ago Prince Shotoku (574-622 CE) served under the Tenji Emperor [Note: This is incorrect as he lived from 626-672. The Emperor at the time was actually the Empress Suiko 554 –628.] When Soga no Umako was executed Shotoku he apparently used a sickle to take his head. Long ago they didn't used swords, but a sickle to behead a person. It is said that a retainer of the Hojo Clan by the name of Isobe, his first name is unknown, was the first to use the Kusarigama.

Note: The story of Prince Shotoku executing Soga no Umako is one of many theories regarding politics in this period. Another version of the story is that Prince Shotoku and Soga no Umako are one and the same.

鎖術

鎖の先端部に鉄丸　分銅等を附けた武器で　それを使つてたゝかふ術を鎖術といふ　その種類も多く　操作技術も種々ある

鎖分銅　手鎖　両分銅とも云ふ　一尺余の撫角鉄鎖の両端に　長さ二寸二三分位の角分鉄鎖をつけたもの

鉄飛（魂飛）　重さ六十目玉の鉄丸に　長さ二三尺の鎖を付けたもの

鎚平　長さ三尺余の鎖の先端に重さ三十目の鉄丸をつけ　片方の先端には角手を付け　中間に上下出来る様な手甲を入れたもの

微塵　直径一寸余りの鉄輪を中心に　六十目玉のついた五寸余りの鎖三個をつけたの

其外　金鞭　片金鞭　利刀　妙力等と称する鎖術用武器がある　又　鎖術に似た術で　鎖の代りに丈夫な長紐一丈四五尺余の両端に鉄丸を皮で覆うた玉をつけた捕物用武器　長手拭の先に石を包んで闘ふ假武器の方法等多数ある

Weighted Chain Techniques

The weapon known in Japanese as a Kusari, is a length of chain with an iron ball at either end. These are also known as a Fundo, or counterweights. The techniques that use the Weighted Chain are known as Kusari Jutsu. The Weighted Chain comes in a variety of shapes and is used in different ways.

The names Counterweight Chain, Hand Chain and Double Counterweight refer to a 2 Shaku (60 centimeter) length of iron chain with smooth, rounded links. On either end a piece of metal, with hard corners, about 2 Sun and 2 or 3 Bun in length (7 centimeters.)

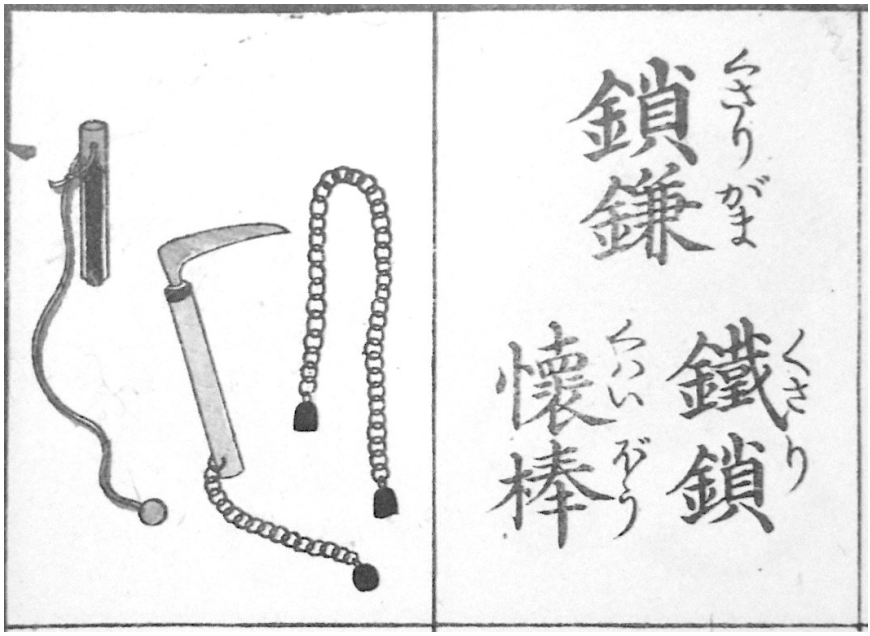
A Konpi, or Flying Soul, is a 3 Shaku (90 centimeter) length of chain with a 60 Monme (225 gram) iron ball at the end.

A Konpei, Level Axle, is a 3 Shaku length of chain with a 30 Monme iron ball at the end. On the other end there is a handle with a hand guard that allows you to swing the chain and ball around.

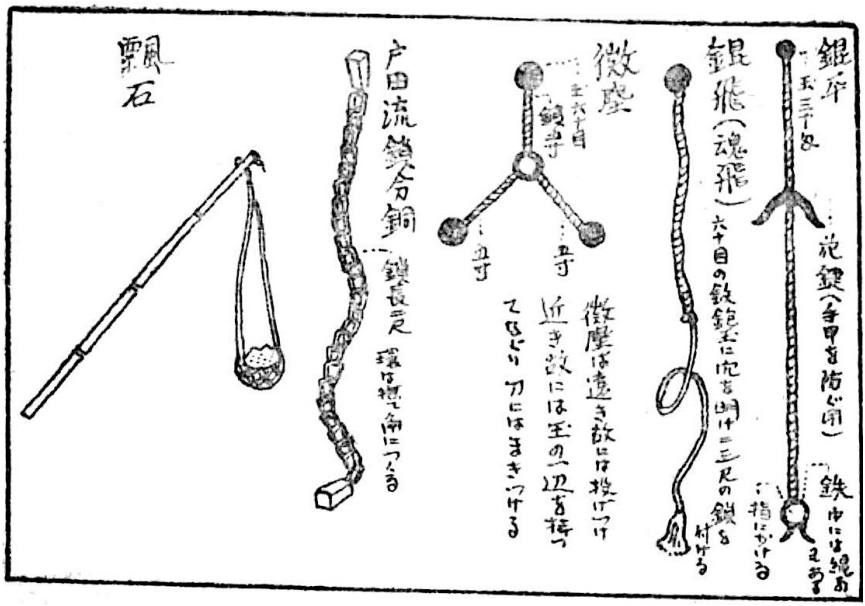
Mijin, the Annihilator, is three separate chains 5 Sun in length attached to an iron ring 1 Sun across.

In addition there is the Metal Ball, One-Sided Metal Ball, Razor and the Mysterious Blade. All of these weapons have chains attached to them.

In addition to these there are also weapons that uses rope instead of chain. There is one such capturing weapon that uses a piece of rope 1 Jo and 4 or 5 Shaku in length with an iron ball wrapped in leather on either end. There are also many weapons that can be crafted quickly such as wrapping a stone up inside a Tenugui cloth and fighting with that.



From left to right: A Breast Pocket Staff, Chain and Sickle and Chain.
From *Two Hundred Illustrated Weapons*.

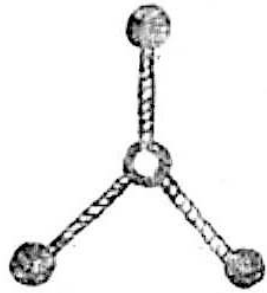


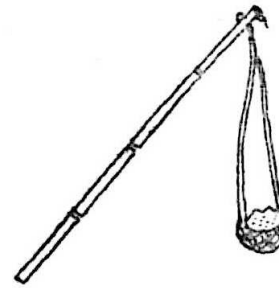
Examples of chain weapons from Fujita Seiko's 1942 book
From Ninjutsu to Spy Warfare.

Konpei
30 Monme (112 gram) ball on the left end
A Key or hook shaped hand guard
Iron ring on the right end.

Konpi (Written two different ways)
A three Shaku length of chain is attached to a hole in a 60 Monme iron ball.

An example of a Toda School Kusarifundo, weighted chain.
The chain is two Shaku long. The links of the chain should be smoothed and the weight at the end should have corners.





Mijin: Annihilator
The balls weigh 60 Monme
All the Chains are four Sun in length　　Right: A Stone Thrower

鎌術

鎌を用ひてたゝかふ術で　この鎌術に用ひる鎌には　長柄鎌　双鎌　二丁鎌術　草苅鎌術等がある

長柄鎌は　双渡り五寸余の鎌に　長さ五尺七八寸の長柄をつけたもの

双鎌は　左右両側に開いた様についた鎌に長柄をつけたもの

二丁鎌術　双渡り五寸五分余の鎌に　長さ一尺三寸余の柄をつけた鎌　二丁を左右両手に持つてたゝかふ術を　二丁鎌術と云ふ

草苅鎌術　双渡り六寸余の鎌に　長さ一尺三寸余の柄をつけた鎌を以てたゝかふ

西洋にも昔　双渡り一尺七八寸余の大鎌に長柄をつけた武器があつた

Sickle Techniques

This section is about using a sickle in combat. There are many types of sickle such as the Long Handled Sickle and the Double Bladed Sickle. In addition, there are techniques that utilize two sickles at the same time as well as the Grass Cutting Sickle.

The Long Handled Sickle has a blade of about 5 Sun (15 centimeters). The handle is 5 Shaku and 7 or 8 Sun (170~175 centimeters.)

The Double Sickle has a curved blade extending out to the left and right sides. The handle is the same as the Long Handled Sickle.

Two Sickle Technique involves holding one sickle in each hand. The sickles have a blade of 5 Sun and 5 Bun (17 centimeters) and a 1 Shaku and 3 Sun handle (39 centimeters). Fighting with two sickles is known as Nicho Kama Jutsu.

Grass Cutting Sickle Technique is a sickle weapon that has a 1 Shaku and 3 Sun (39 centimeter) handle with a 6 Sun (18 centimeter) blade fixed to the top.

Long ago in the West there was a giant sickle like weapon that had a blade 1 Shaku and 7 or 8 Sun (51-55 centimeters) long with a long handle.

Examples of long handled sickle weapons from the Edo Era book *Two Hundred Illustrated Weapons*.

鉄扇術

普通　鉄扇と云ふのは親骨は鉄で中骨は全部鯨の髭で造つた　長さ一尺二三寸位のものである　この鉄扇（一名　軍扇とも云ふ）を以てたゝかふ術を鉄扇術と云つてゐるが　この鉄扇を以てたゝかふのは　止むなくたゝかふ場合の　護身用具としてのことで　眞の攻防兩技を兼ねた武術　鉄扇術として用ひる鉄扇は扇子形に造られた全鉄製一尺二三寸位のもので　鉄製　卦算　鉄箇に類する武器である

直心影流の榊原健吉は・樫の堅木を以つて扇子形に造り　これを頑固扇と名付け　常に鉄扇代用の護身用具として身辺より離さなかつた

Iron Fan Techniques

Looking at a folded Iron Fan only the outer two sides are iron. The inside spines are all made of whale baleen. It is usually about 1 Shaku and 2 or 3 Sun (36~39 centimeters) in length. The Iron Fan, which is sometimes referred to as the General's Signal Fan, is the weapon used in Tessen Jutsu, Iron Fan Techniques.

For the most part, the Iron Fan is used as a last resort weapon of defense. It cannot be used effectively without a firm understanding of both offensive and defensive techniques. The weapon actually used in Tessen Jutsu is a folded fan shaped piece of iron about 1 Shaku and 2 or 3 Sun (36~39 centimeters) in length. It is related to the weapons the Iron Whip, the Yardstick, and the Iron Tube.

Sakakibara Kenkichi (1830-1894) Jikishin Kage School of martial arts made a fan out of Zelvoka wood. He called it his "stubborn fan." He always had this on hand in case he ever needed to defend himself. Illustration: *Sakakibara Kenkichi Doing Shugyo in the Mountains* by Kawanabe Kyosai 1874

弓術

弓術は　射術（弓鉄砲等を射る術）の一種にして　弓で矢を射る術　射法を云ふ

この術の武器としての弓（矢を射遣る武器）は　古くは丸木弓で　木を丸く削つて用ひたので　その材名によつて　梓弓　檀弓　梻弓　槻弓　梓弓　桑弓等と名づけられた　中世以後は苦竹二片の間に木を挿み籐又は糸で巻いた　其製作によつて重籐　側白木　白木　塗籠　節巻　筈籐　絲裏　村摺等がある　弓の長さ

Archery

Kyujutsu, or Archery, is part of Projectile Techniques that includes the Bow, Rife, Cannon and any other projectile shooting weapon. It consists of firing an arrow with a bow. It is also known as Iho, or Target Method.

The Bow, which fires the arrow that is used in Archery, was traditionally made of just a tree branch. It was shaved down and used basically like that. The names of the different types of bow depended on the type of tree in its construction. Some examples are the Cherry Birch Bow, Cedar Bow, Wax Tree/Sumac Bow, Japanese Zelkova Tree Bow, Chinese Mulberry Bow and the Mulberry Bow. Beginning in the middle ages timber bamboo was sandwiched around a wood core and it was wrapped with cord or rattan. Depending on the construction the bow could be called a Plain Bow, Unstained Bow, Joint Wrapped Bow, Flute Wrapped Bow (red wrapping over black like a Japanese flute) as well as others.

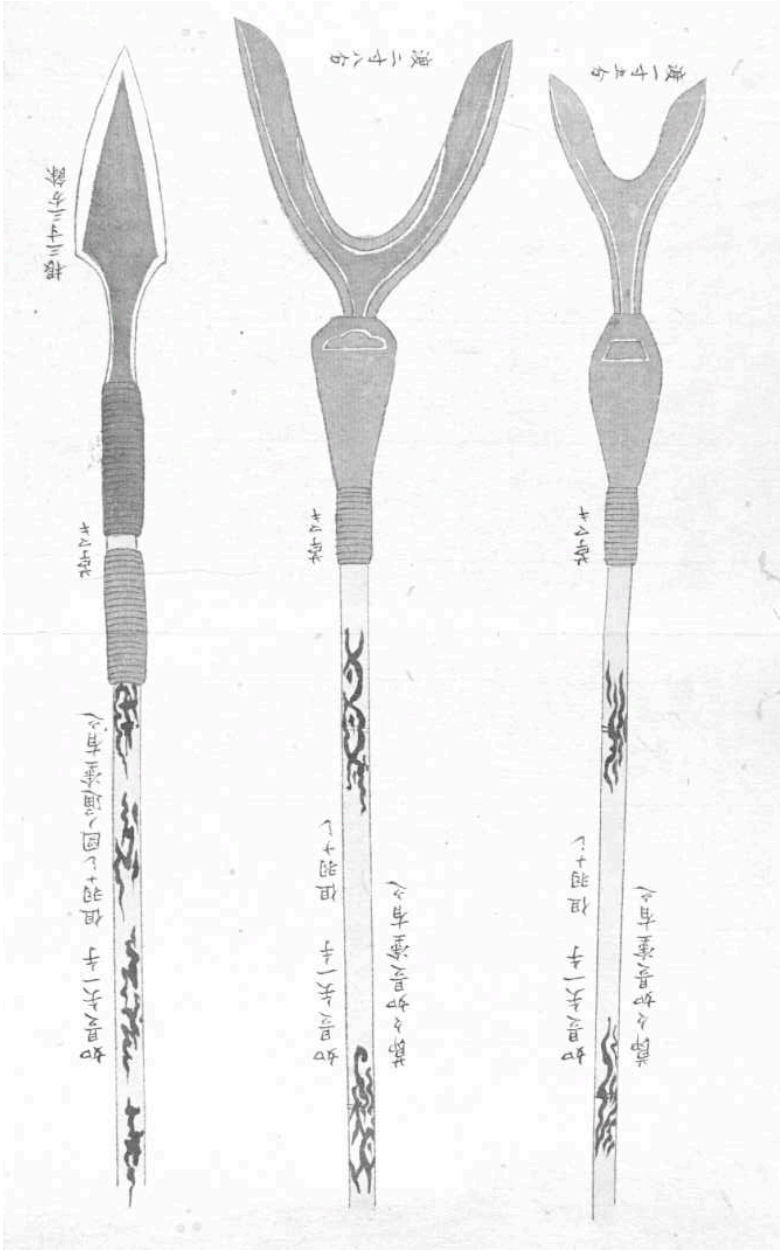
A Plain Bow and a Double Wisteria Bow from the Edo Era book *Two Hundred Illustrated Weapons*.

は　己の手許で七尺五寸であつたが　現在は七尺三寸である　又用途によつて
軍弓　歩射弓　騎射弓　堂弓　芝弓等がある　又矢（弓づるに番へて射るもの
）は　筈　筈　羽　鏃の四部からなる　羽には　三立　四立　二羽等があり
　筈の形には　一文字　杉形　麥粒等がある　材は竹か木で　征矢　的矢　野
矢　雁股　鏑矢　神頭　蟇目　矢柄　繰矢　差矢等の種類がある　長さは十二束か
ら十五六束位　節は四ッ節で　羽中　袖摺　筈中　射付（征矢の時は捕節）と云
ひ　三ッ節には羽中がない

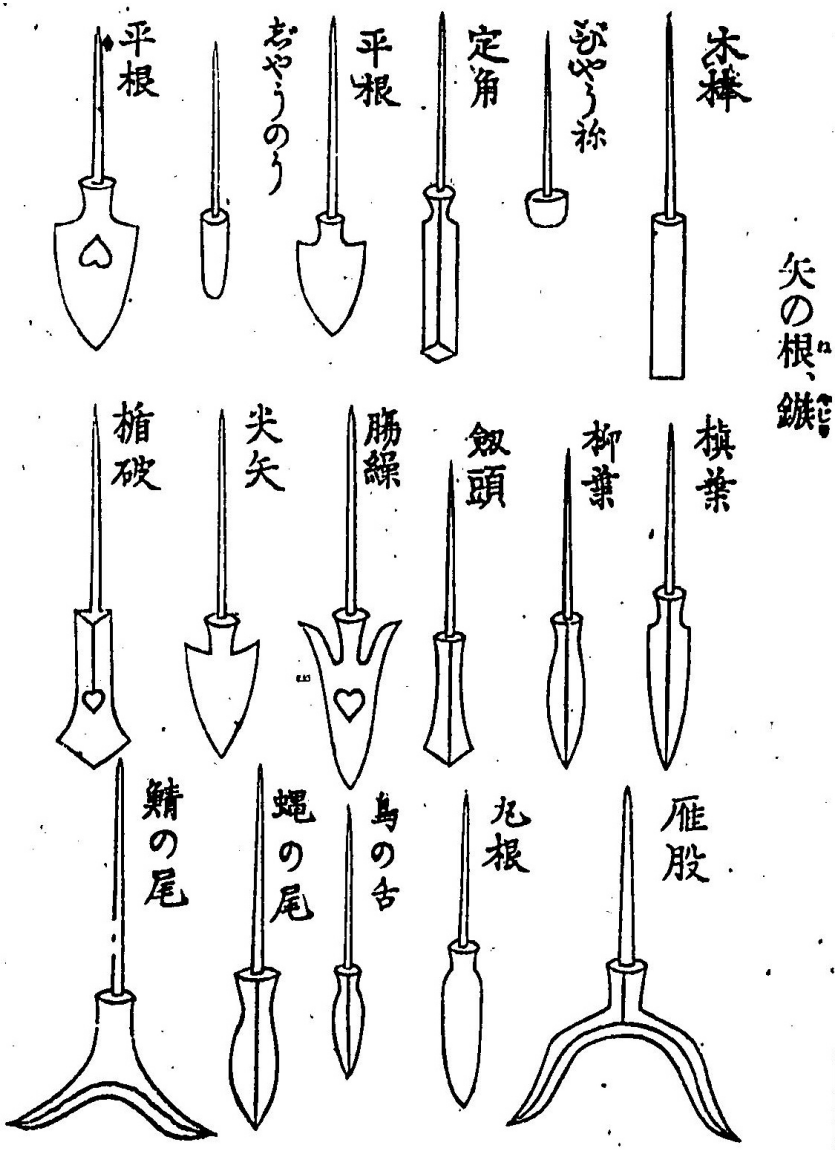
The length of a Bow depends on the user. Typically it was seven Shaku and five Sun (225 centimeters) by these days they tend to be seven Shaku and three Sun. Of course depending on the situation you may use a Soldiers Bow, a Foot Soldier's Bow, a Mounted Knight's Bow, a Bow for Shooting Down the Thirty Room Length of Sanjusangendo Temple in Kyoto or a Field Bow.

The Ya, or arrow, that is fired from the bow consists of four parts. The No, or the shaft of the arrow, the Hazu, the nock at the back of the arrow, the Hane, the feathers that make up the fletching and the Yajiri, the arrowhead. There can be either two, three or four feathers at the end of an arrow. The shaft of the arrow can be straight, like a cedar tree or slightly wide in the middle. Arrows can be made of wood or bamboo.

征矢 Soya - Piercing Arrow
的矢 Tekiya - Target Arrow
野矢 Yaya - Field Arrow
雁股 Karimata - Open Thigh Arrow
鏑矢 Kaburaya - Signal Arrow
神頭 Jinto - God Head Arrow
蟇目 Hikime - Signal Arrow
矧矢 Kuruyari - Small Crescent Moon Arrow
操矢 Soya - Control Arrow
差矢 Saya - Dividing Arrow



Images of two Karimata arrowheads and a Soya Arrow from an Edo Era Archery Densho.



Illustrations of some of the many kinds of arrowheads used in Japan. A page from 諸流弓術極意教授図解 *Illustrated Instructor's Guide To The Inner Secrets of All Schools of Archery.* 1901.

ら十五六束位　節は四ッ節で　羽中　袖摺　筈中　射付（征矢の時は捕節）と云ひ　三ッ節には羽中がない

弓の種類には　普通弓　弩　李滿弓　半弓　揚弓等がある

普通の弓は　昔は長さ七尺五寸であつたが　後　長さ七尺三寸になつた

弩（お〜ゆみ）　大弓は非常に大きな弓で昔は数十人で発したものあると云ふ

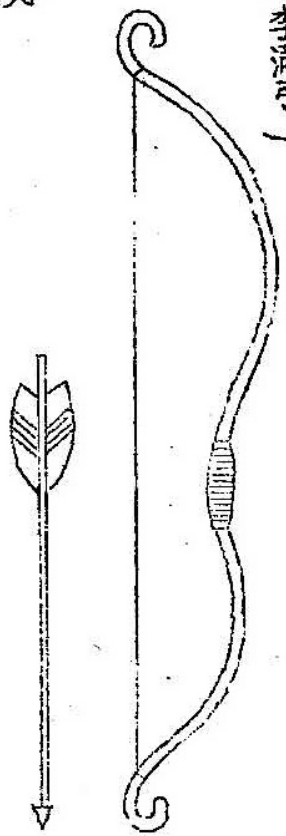
李滿弓は　半弓の一種で

鯨鬚で作る　朝鮮の利滿子

によつて傳へらるゝ云ふ

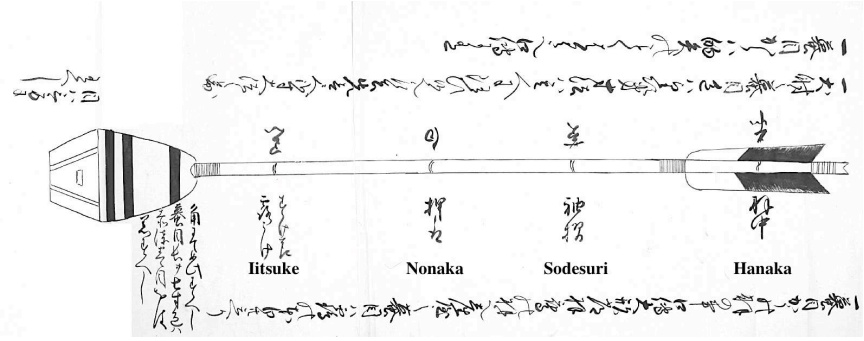
弓の長さ二尺八寸　又は

二尺五寸　矢は一尺五寸五分



（李滿弓）

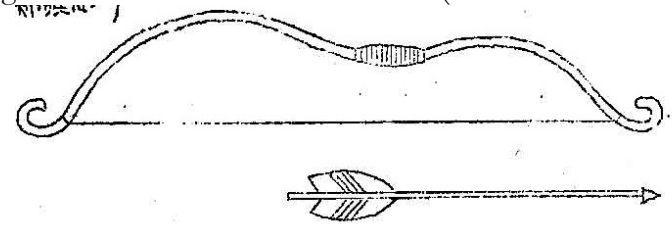
The length of the arrow is from twelve to sixteen *Taba*, or handbreadths. The arrow is divided into four equal parts starting at the fletching. They are Hanaka, Sodesuri, Nonaka and Iitsuke. Some arrows like the Soya only have three sections, in which case there is no Hanaka.



The joints in the arrow from an untitled Edo Era archery scroll.

There are several types of bows as well. The Standard Bow, the Great Bow, the Kiman Bow, the Half Bow and the Rising Bow. The Standard Bow is traditionally seven Shaku and five Sun in length. However, later it was shortened to seven Shaku and three Sun.

The Great Bow is an extremely large bow that required a dozen people to operate. The Kiman Bow, in the illustration below, is a kind of Half Bow. It is said that this bow, which is made from whale baleen is based on a design from Korea. The bow is from two Shaku and eight Sun to two Shaku and five Sun (75~84 centimeters.)



It fires arrows that are from one Shaku and five Sun and five Bun to one Shaku and seven Sun (46~51 centimeters.) Yoshimi Daiemon (1624-1706), whose honorific name was Kiman, developed what was known as the Whale Bow. It was about two Shaku (60 centimeters) tall.

又は一尺七寸　羽の長さ三寸　筈のふかさ二分　鏑巻三分である　又　紀州の人　其

吉見谷右衛門経武（号　李満）の発明した二尺半りの鯨弓　籠半弓をいふ

半弓は　弓の長さ三尺四寸で握革はにはとこの皮である

揚弓は　小弓の一種で　弓の長さ二尺八寸　矢は七寸　又は九寸　継弓である

射法には　騎射　立射　居射　堂前　等があるが　大別すると　歩射と騎射と

に分れる

歩射は　かちゆみ　かちだちと云つて　歩立にて射るを云ひ

騎射は　うまゆみ　まゆみと云つて　馬上にて弓を射るを云ふ

歩射の法には　巻藁前　的前　遠矢前　指矢前　要前があり　式には　円物

The Basket Half Bow, a small, easy to carry bow, is three Shaku (90 centimeter) in length. The hand covering is made from the bark of the Japanese elderberry tree.

The Rising Bow is another type of small bow. It is about two Shaku and eight Sun long (84 centimeters) and shoots an arrow that is from seven to nine Sun (21~27 centimeters.) This type of bow has a high rate of fire.

Archery is used in a variety of ways. On horseback, while standing, facing a target and so on. The main categories are firing while walking and firing while on horseback.

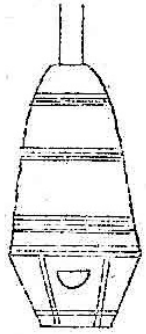
Firing while standing, walking or crouching is known as Kachi Yumi in Japanese. This is the weapon the foot soldiers, called Kachi, use when the stop and shoot.

Firing from horseback is called Uma Yumi or Ma Yumi meaning Horse Bow. It is the art of firing arrows from horseback.

There is a method for standing, waking or crouching and shooting known variously as Before the Hay Bale, Before the Target, Before the Far Target, Before the Short Target, Before the Main Target and so on.

歩射の法には　巻藁前　的前　遠矢前　指矢前　要前があり　式には　円物
振々　狭物　三々九　八的　草鹿　百手　大的　小的　闔的　三的　小串　七所
勝負　十所勝負　勤進的等がある　又　蟇目　鳴弦　の式等がある

蟇目とは　鏃の一種で　鏑矢に似て長さ四
寸位　圓み五寸　五孔或は六孔ある木製鏃で
これを射る時は　空気孔に觸れて高く響き
如何なる妖魔をも降伏さすと云ふ　その蟇目

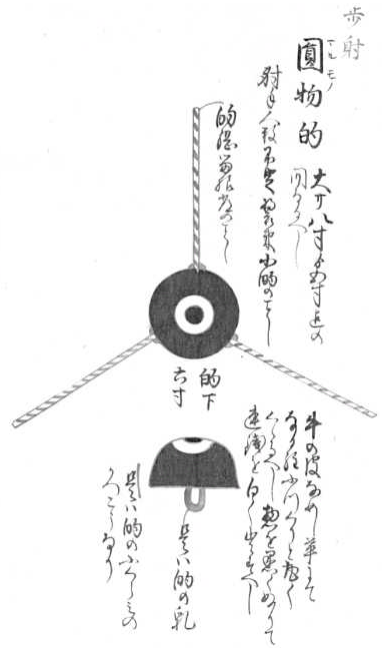


蟇目

Ceremonial Archery Competitions

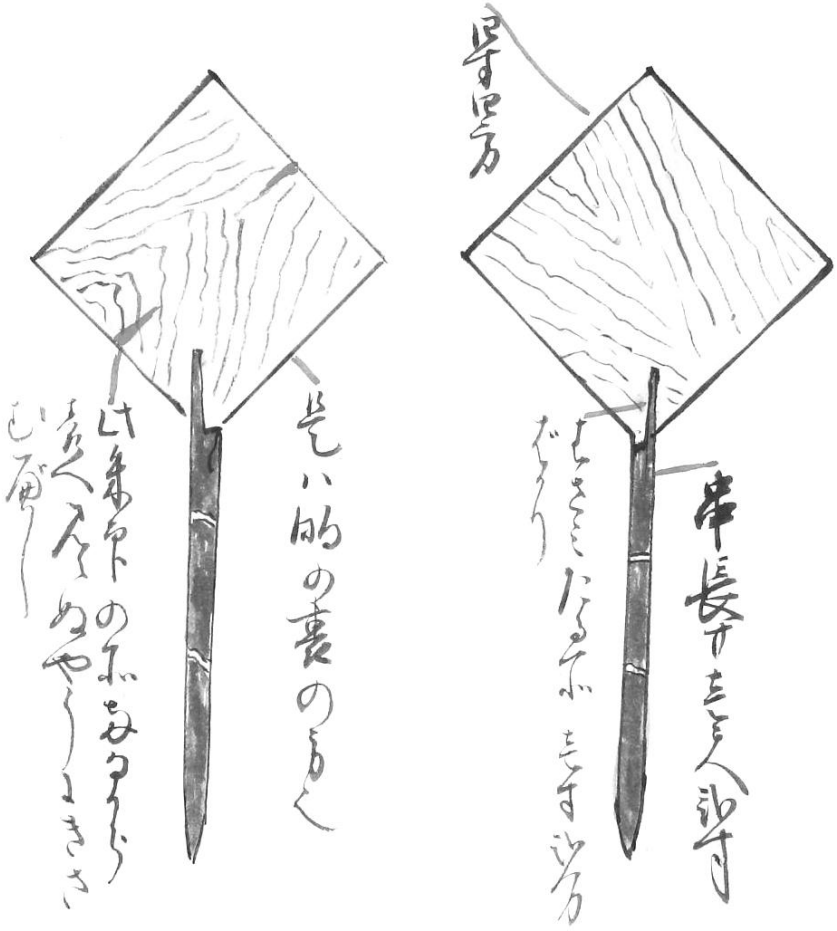
Note: There are several types of ceremonial archery competitions. These serve the dual role of encouraging martial spirit and invoking a blessing from the gods. Fujita Seiko lists the following fourteen ceremonies but does not offer any definitions. The explanations are all the translator's. In some cases there were multiple, conflicting definitions for the same shooting ceremony. For those ceremonies I used the most common definition or definitions.

1. 円物 Marumono - Round Object shooting. Archers shoot two hands, or four arrows, at a round target suspended by three cords. From the late 18th century book *Illustrations of Ancient Weapons* by Suzuki Shinshuku.

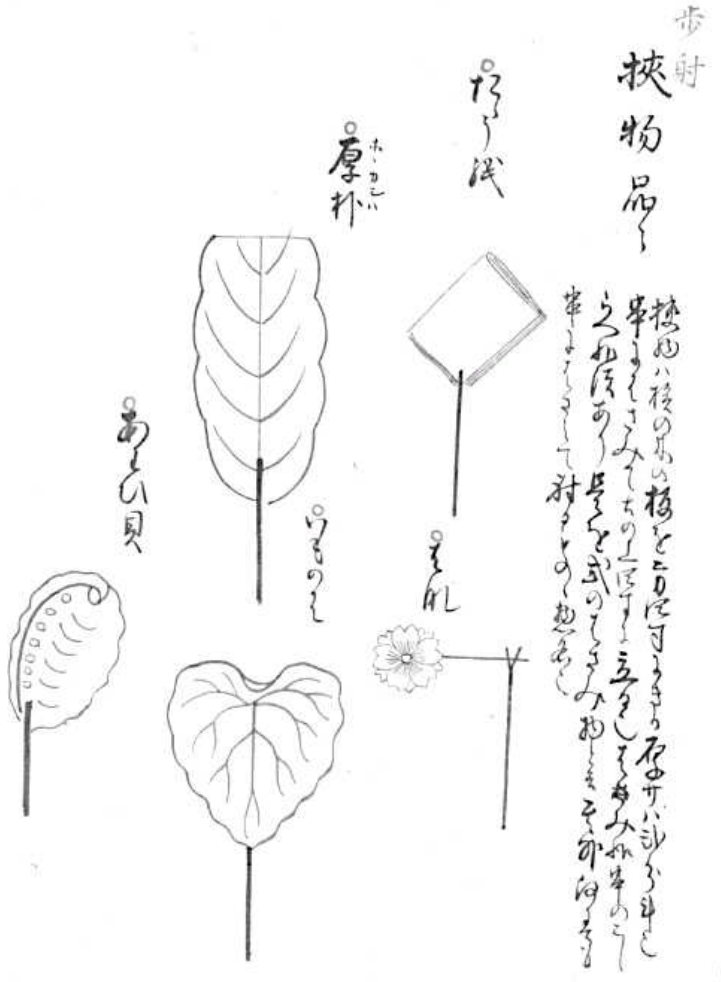


2. 振振 Buri-Buri - Targets that sway back and forth. A lighthearted shooting game where archers shoot at moving things. There is no official version, but some documents describe it as thrown balls and objects pulled on carts. Often done after more serious ceremonies.

3. 挟物 Hasami Mono - Items Wedged on Top. Two versions. The first is a formal contest where archers shoot at square cedar planks of wood wedged on top of bamboo poles. The illustration below shows the wooden board on top of a bamboo pole. From *Illustrations of Ancient Weapons*.

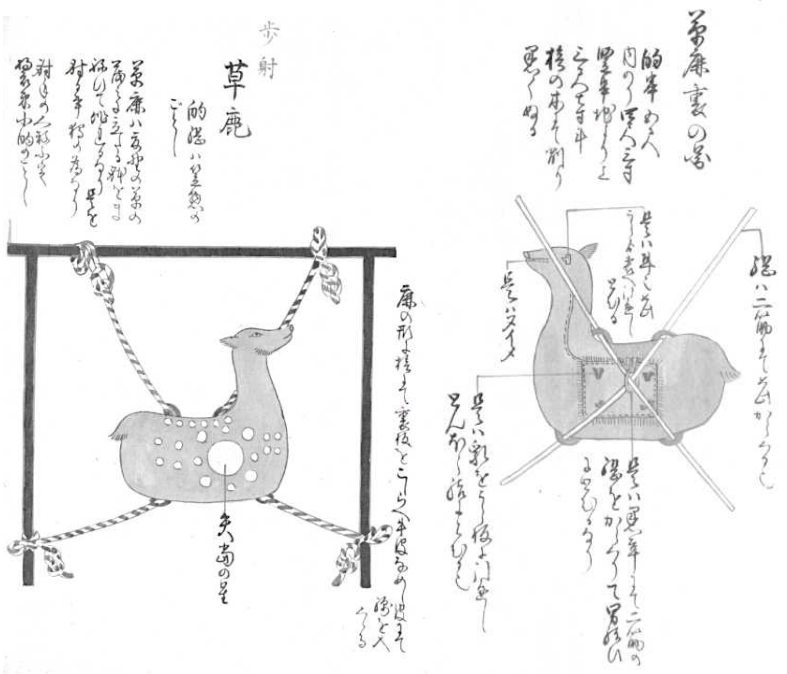


The second type of Hasami Mono is a more lighthearted contest with different shaped targets on poles. Often leaves and flowers were used as targets, as well as gloves, shoes, folded pieces of paper, hairpins and the scabbards of small knives. The competition is done both on horseback as well as Kachi Yumi, or on the ground. This illustration shows (clockwise from the top right: folded piece of paper, a flower, a potato leaf, a dried abalone and a cut leaf. From *Illustrations of Ancient Weapons* by Suzuki Shinshuku.

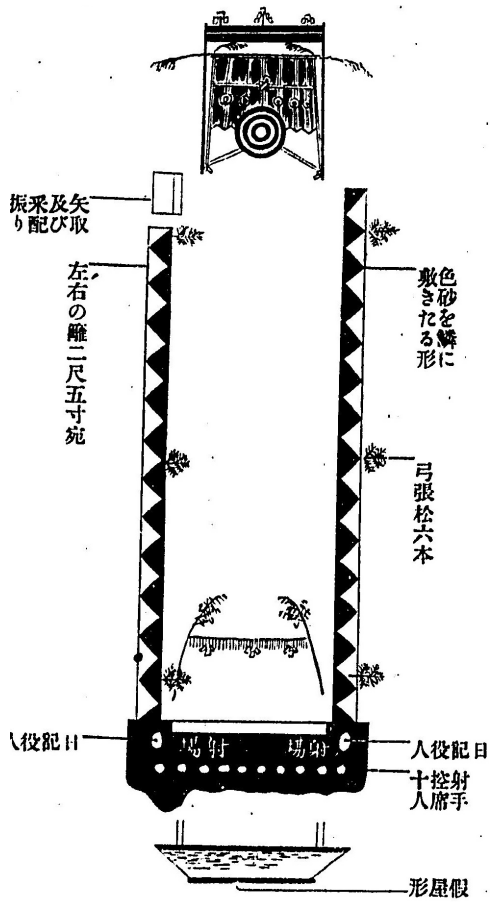


4. 三々九 San San Ku - Three-Three-Nine. An archery ceremony held on the fourth day of the new year. There are four teams of two archers. The target is a square of cedar. The first archer shoots at a target with the kanji 十 Ju or Ten cut into the back of the wood with a knife. [Note: This serves two purposes. The number ten is a powerful number (nine is the most powerful and ten is godlike) Also it allows the board to splinter easier.] The second archer shoots at a target with the Kanji 井 I (Pronounced like the letter "E") or well carved into the back at every 3 Sun (9 centimeter) interval. The name Three-Three-Nine derives from the triple three Sun interval.

5. 草鹿 Kusajishi - Grass Deer. A target shaped like a deer, often made of deer skin stuffed with straw. Said to have begun in the year 1194. Front and back illustrations detailing how to construct a Kusajishi from *Illustrations of Ancient Weapons* by Suzuki Shinshuku.



6. 百手 Momote - One Hundred Hands. This contest is ten archers each shooting ten hands of arrows. A hand of arrows means two. The result is one hundred hands (200 total arrows) are shot. (The reason the arrows are in sets of two is because Japanese arrows use fletching from both wings. The feathers naturally curve to the left or right. Arrows with feathers that curve to the left are called 甲矢 Haya, or first arrows. Those with feathers that curve to the right are called 乙矢 Otoya, or second arrows. They are traditionally used in pairs. The Haya rotates clockwise in flight, the Otoya rotates counter-clockwise. Explanation of the Haya and Otoya is from Kyudo.com) Illustration of how the ceremony should be set up from the *New Book of Archery* by Uchiyama Tsutomu. 1906.

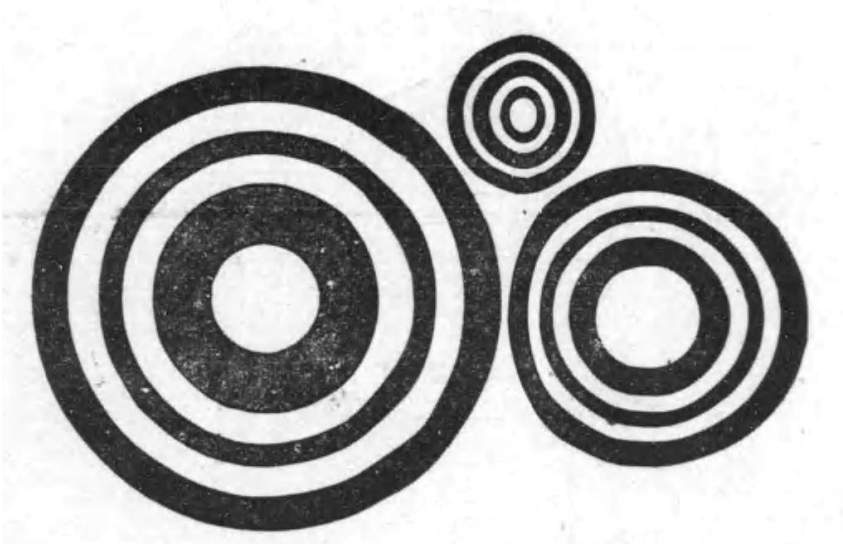


7. 大的 Omato-Great Target. A target five Shaku and three Sun across (186 centimeters.) Also refers to a ceremony mentioned in the *Chronicles of Japan*. Conducted following the strictest adherence to form on the second day of the new year.

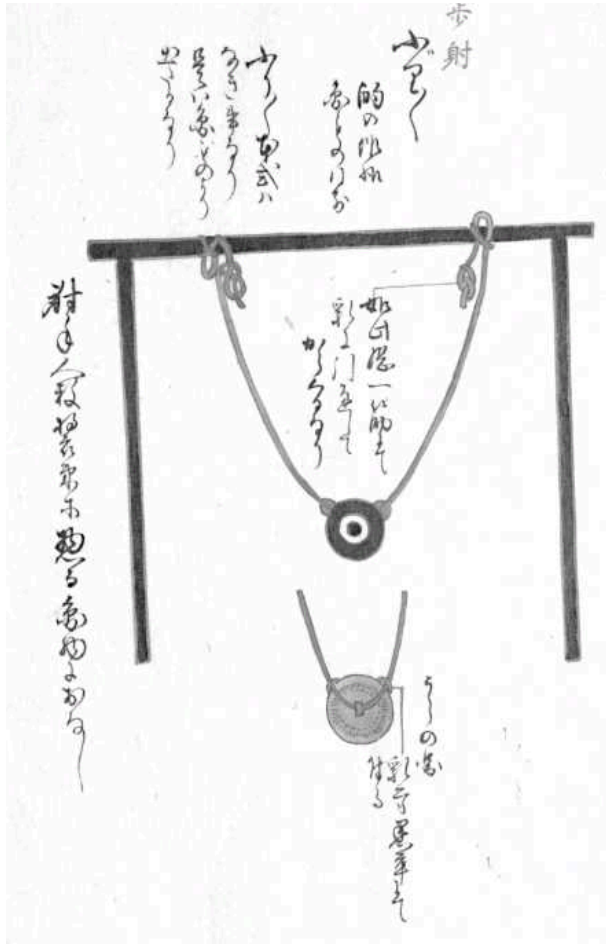
8. 小的 Komato- Any target less than one Shaku and two Sun (36 centimeters) in diameter.

9. 鬮的 Kuji Mato- Betting Target. A game played by Samurai since the Kamakura Era. Each Samurai flips an arrowhead to determine which of two teams they are on. Each group challenges the other to skill shots.

10. 三的 San Mato- A ceremony that has participants firing at a large, medium and small targets, hence the name, "Three Targets." Illustration from *A Quick Guide to Archery* by Takahashi Nobutaro. 1914.



11. 小串 Kogushie- A type of lighthearted shooting contest. Originally done on horseback, it gradually shifted to a standing contest. The target is seven Sun (21 centimeters) across and are hung from leather straps. The shooters stands about 35 meters away.



12. 七所勝負 Nanasho Shobu- Seven Target Competition. Multiple shooters compete to hit seven targets in a row.

13. 十所勝負 Jusho ShobuTen Target Competition. Same as the Seven Target but with ten.

勸進的

勸進的は所謂辻的なり、射場を市井に設け何人を問はず來り射る、勿論賭弓なり、京的と稱するもの即ちこれなり、始は所務的といひたるなり、後に至りて勸進的の名あるに至る、初日權禰正入道威德弓術を弘めんと欲し諸國を遊歷し吉田家に至り所務的の式を傳へたり、これその依て起れる所なり、蓋し古の圖的に倣ふて制したるものなるべし、矢代を振る等多く圖的に似たり、七日間の興行を以て恒例とす、二七日或は三七日に及ぶことあり、金銀の的を射る、金的を懸くる時は上に杉の葉を飾るなり、その形楯の如し、射中てたる的は繪馬に作り神社に懸くるを古儀とす、射手裝束は上下なり、人數は制限なし、見るもの見料を拂ふ、今の勸進相撲の如し、正德享保の頃京都に行はれたるものなりといふ、

14. 勤進的

Kinjin Mato-Meritorious Target Shooting. Explanation from *The Illustrated Guide to Schools of Japanese Archery* by the Tokyo Archery Association 1901.

This is a type of archery contest that is conducted near the local well. This is a place the general populace would frequent. The contest is therefore open to anyone using any style of archery. It is also known as *Kyoto Target Shooting.* It was originally titled *Profession Targets* with each profession shooting, later it evolved into *Meritorious Target Shooting.* It was introduced by the founder of the Heiki School of Archery, Heiki Danjo Masatsugu who wanted to spread the teachings of his school. Eventually, he found favor with the Yoshita Family in Kyoto and the *Profession Target Shooting* contest was established.

Heki Danjō Masatsugu teaches archery to Yoshida Shigekata

Meritorious Target Shooting took over from a gambling game called Kuji Mato, which was being discouraged by the government. However, soon gambling returned and the seven day event was extended to 27 or even 37 days. There were gold and silver targets. A sprig of a cedar tree was hung on the top of the gold targets as a decoration. Any gold target that was hit would be shaped into an Eba offering board and hung in the shrine according to the old ways. The shooters wore Kamishimo clothing but there was no limit to the number of people. There was a small fee collected to watch similar to the way local Sumo matches are arranged. These matches were popular in Kyoto throughout the Seitoku and Kyoho Eras (1711-1736.)

Another interesting note was that it originated in Aichi Prefecture as a way to train Tokugawa Ieyasu's auxiliary troops during the Warring States Era. A novel entertainment for the general populace, who were forbidden to touch weapons.

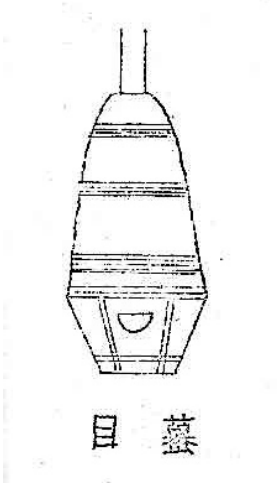
を射る式には　産所引目　屋越引目　魔縁引目　宿直引目等がある

鳴弦と云ふは　一名弦打とも云ひ　悪魔や病気を祓ひ除く爲めに　弓弦を引鳴らし浄めを行ふ式を云ふ

騎射は馬術の項に示す

Hikime Signal Arrows

In addition, there are arrows like the Hikime and Narigen signal arrows. The Hikime, or Toad's Eye is a type of arrowhead that is about 4 Sun (12 centimeters) long. It is about 5 Sun around and is perforated with five or six holes. When this wooden arrowhead is fired it makes a high whistling sound. The sound of this arrow is said to chase off any malignant daemons that may be haunting the area. The ceremonies that use these arrows are known as Ububе Hikime, Place of Birth, Yagoshi Hikime, Over the Roof of the House, Maen Hikime, Severing Daemon Contact and Tonoi Hikime, or Night Watch. There are others as well.



The Narigen, or Calling Bow String, is a kind of Genuchi, or Bowstring Plucking. The ceremony consists of pulling and releasing the bowstring making a twanging sound. This sound causes any evil daemons or illnesses to be swept away. This is one kind of ceremony.

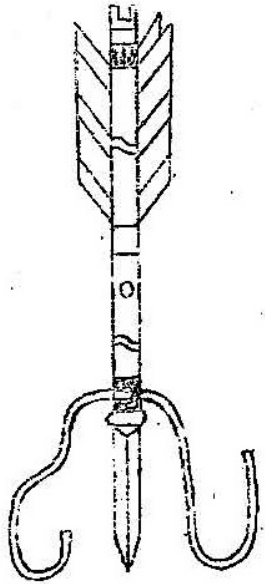
Firing the bow from horseback will be covered under the topic Equestrian.

打根術

打根術と云ふのは　弓を用ひず　矢（討根）を　手で投げつけて突き刺す術で　一名　手突矢　投矢術とも云ふ

打根（討根）は　鏑箭に似たもので　長さ二尺内外　径六分位の柄に　三角槍の穂に似た　長さ四寸七八分位の身を付け　四枚立の羽中に緒をつけたものもある

支那にも　これによく似た　鏑箭　鏢槍の術があり　又　筒をつかつて投げつ



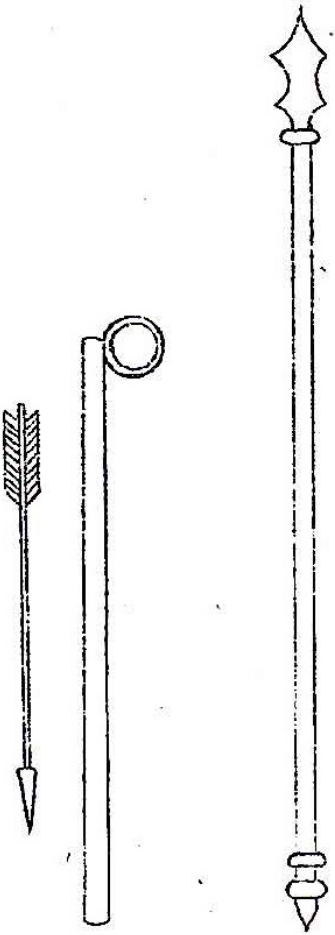
打根

Throwing Dart Techniques

The Throwing Dart method is a system that involves throwing an arrow-like dart without the use of a bow in order to pierce the enemy. It is also known as Hand Stabbing Arrow or Throwing Arrow Techniques. The Uchine which means "Striking Arrow" can be written two ways. The method consists of using a spear like arrow that is about 2 Shaku (60 centimeters) in length. The shaft is about 6 Bun (1.7 centimeters) in diameter and the 4 Sun and 7 or 8 Bun (12~14 centimeter) arrowhead is triangular. It has four feathers and a string tied at the center.

ける鞭箭　袖箭　筒子箭　流星箭等があつた

鞭箭は　鋼を溜子として放す箭　袖箭は箭短く鏃を重くしたもので　袖の中よりこれを放すに三十歩遠くの人をも射つたと云ふ　この袖箭に倣つて出来たのが日本の手弓術　懐中矢である



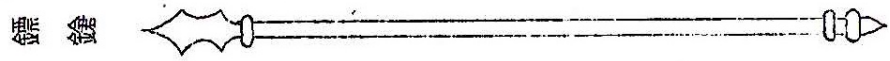
鏢鎗

鞭箭

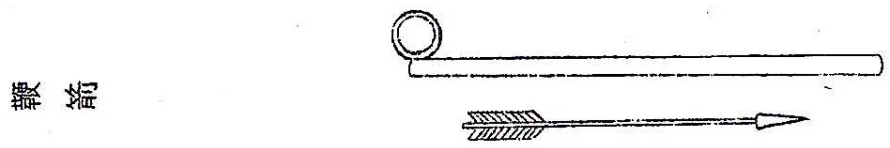
In China there are methods called Arrow Spears and Javelin-Spears. In addition to that there are Whip Arrows, Sleeve Arrows, Tube Darts and Shooting Star Arrows.
The Whip Arrows are copper tube like arrows. The Sleeve Arrows are short arrows with heavy arrowheads. They are kept in the sleeve and can be thrown at people up to thirty paces away.

In Japan we have similar weapons in the shape of Hand Arrow Techniques and Breast Pocket Arrows.

Javelin Spear



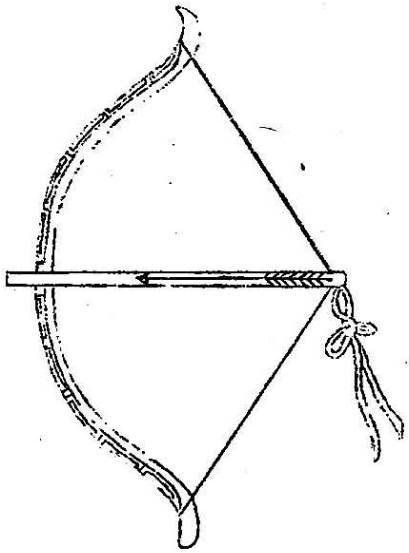
Whip Arrow



管矢術　短矢術　仕込矢

管矢術は　一名　短矢術とも云ふ　普通の弓に　長さ七寸余の矢を番へ　管を利用して射る術で　古くは仕込矢とも云はれた　支那ではこれを邊箭と云つて古くから行はれてゐた

邊箭



Tube Arrow Techniques
Short Arrow Techniques
Concealed Arrow Techniques

Shooting an arrow concealed within a tube is known in Japanese as Kanya Jutsu or Tanya Jutsu. This method shoots an arrow approximately 7 Sun (21 centimeters) in length. The arrow is placed inside a tube before firing. This is a type of concealed weapon used long ago. In China this weapon was traditionally called a Close Proximity Arrow. See illustration on the previous page.

馬術

馬を思ふ様に騎りこなす術（乗御の術）を乗馬術　騎馬術と云ふ　この騎馬術のうち　たゝかひを専らとした馬術を軍馬術　又は　要馬術（揚馬術）と云つた

要馬術（軍馬術）は　馬上戦闘技術として　単騎又は数騎による騎馬戦闘の駈引動作から　物見斥候の方法　馬上に於ける太刀術　鎗術　長刀術　格闘組打弓術　鉄砲　水馬等迄行はれた　其中　射法（騎射法）は最も重せられ　その技は種々の方式で競い行はれた　騎射八道と云つて　流鏑馬　牛追物　犬追物　八的挟物（三々九手枕等）　笠懸　草鹿　狩倉　暮目　等あるが　流鏑馬　犬追物　笠懸は特に馬上三ツ物と云つた

流鏑馬と云ふは　馬を馳せながら　鏑矢を番ひて射る作法

犬追物と云ふは　追物射の一種で　犬を追ひ射る法で　古くは猪　鹿　などを追ひ乍ら射つたり　小牛を追ひながら　暮目　礒頭を以つて射る牛追物も其中の一つである

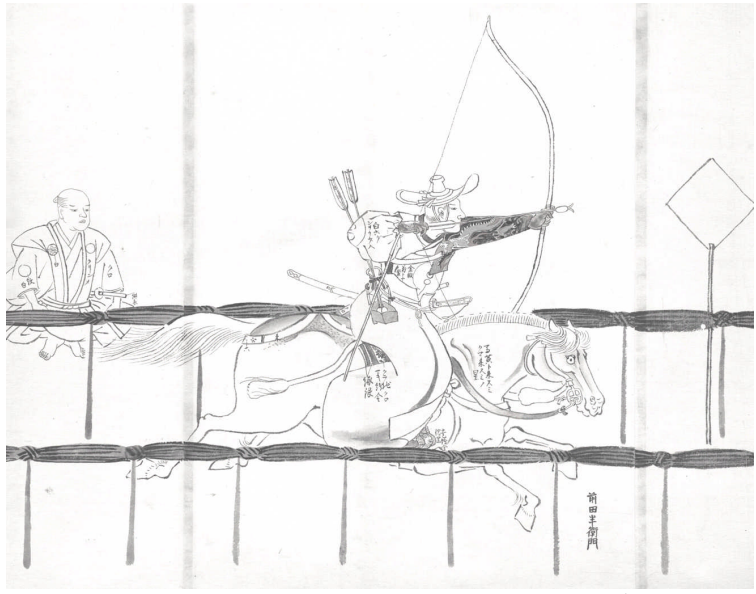
笠懸（笠掛）笠を懸けて的として射る法で　これには　遠笠懸　小笠懸　があつた　今は笠の代りに　板に草を張つて的とす

Equestrian Arts

As you might expect, using the arts of using a horse are known as the Riding Arts or Mounted Knight Techniques. Within the Mounted Knight Techniques there are specific Equestrian techniques that involve military horses. In addition, there are also Fundamental Equestrian Techniques.

The Fundamental Equestrian Techniques involve fighting while on horseback, whether alone or with other riders. It includes strategic movement as well as observing and scouting methods. Examples are: fighting with the Tachi, Spear, Halberd, Unarmed Combat, Archery, firing matchlocks and crossing bodies of water while on horseback. Within that group of techniques the one considered to be the most important is shooting from horseback. There are many different ways to train these methods through competition. *The Eight Ways of the Mounted Archer* includes the following:

1. 流鏑馬 Yabusame- A competition where riders put their horse into a gallop and fire at targets along the way.



From *A Yabusame Competition in Takadanobaba*. 18th Century. Okamaoto Zenetsu.

2. 牛追物 Ushiomono- Cow Pursuing Event
3. 犬追物 Inuomono- Dog Pursuing Event

These are two types of Chasing and Shooting Events. Dogs are pursued and shot with arrows. In the past wild boar, deer and so forth were pursued and shot. Calves were also pursued in some of these events. The animals were shot with blunted Hikime or Isoto arrows.

Inuomono by Fukuda Shichiro 1897

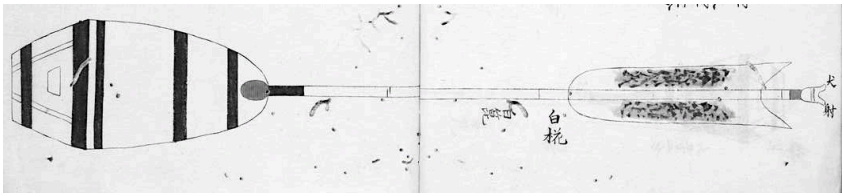


Illustration of the arrows used for the chasing and shooting contests.
From *Illustrated Guide to Archery*, Edo Era.

4. 八的挟物 Yamato Hasami Mono. Eight Target Shooting.

Another name for the Hasami Mono, or Items Wedged on Top competition. The "Yama" can also be written as 八魔 or eight devils. Striking all eight targets "breaks" the demons. This reveals another way to write the "Yama" part of "Yamato" as 八破, or eight breakings.

5. 笠懸 Kasagake- Shooting a Hat. This refers to a contest where a straw hat is used as a target. There are a few varieties of the contest such as Long Distance Hat Shooting and Small Hat Shooting. Contemporary contests often use a straw covered target in place of a hat.

Kasagake from a 13th century painting.

6. 草鹿

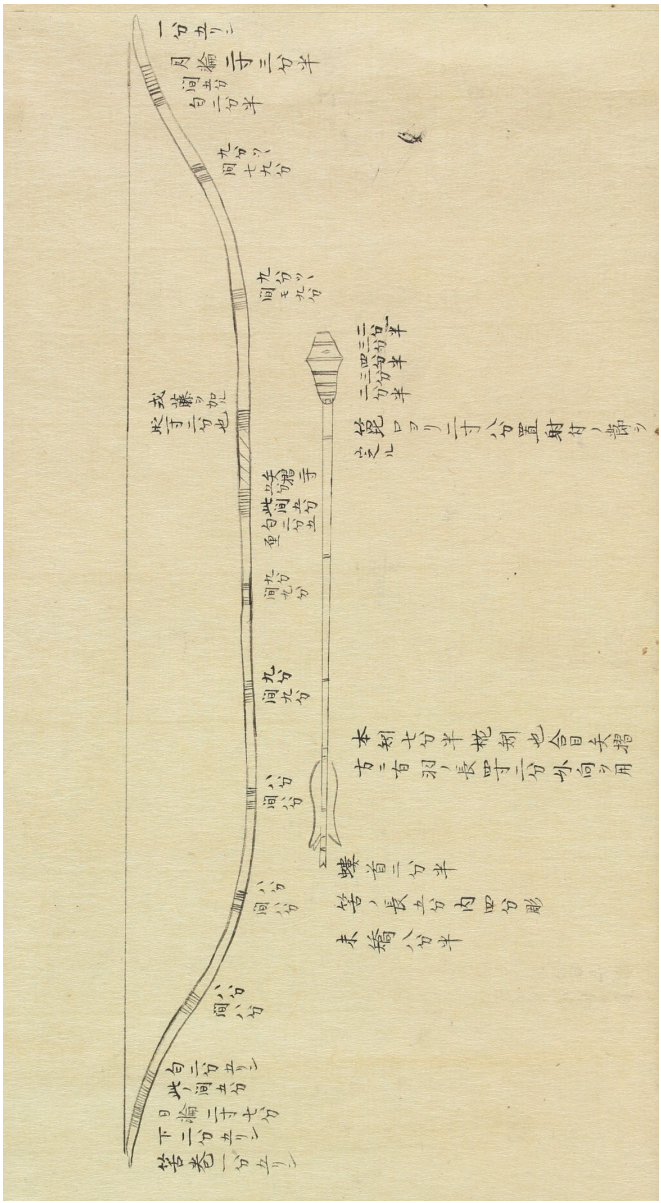
Kusajishi- A deer shaped target made out of straw. The illustration is from and Edo Era archery scroll called *The Bow and Arrow Scroll.*

7. 狩倉

Karikura-Any area designated for hunting as part of Samurai training. Such lands could only be used for military training or hunting, on foot or on horseback.

8. 蟇目

Hikime-Whistling arrows fired when a noble child is born or becomes ill in order to ward off evil. This illustration from a 18th century Otsubo School (Equestrian Arts and Archery) shows the ceremonial bow and arrow.



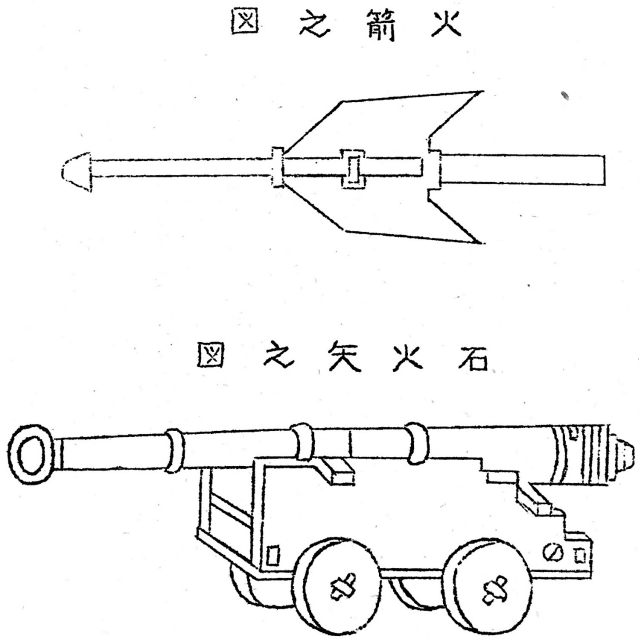
砲術　火術　射撃術

鉄砲　大砲等を発射して弾丸を目標物体に命中せしむるわざを砲術　火術と云つた　火薬を用ひて発射する火砲のない時代は　石弾と云つて大きな木を建て石を其上に置いて　機にて敵へ投げる旗や弩　発石等の類が用ひられてゐたが火薬の伝来後　鉄砲　大砲　佛郎機　棒火矢　玉火矢等の火薬砲器が用ひられる

Using Fire, Shooting Cannons and Employing Firearms

The art of firing a bullet from a rifle or cannon into your target is known as Hojutsu, or gunnery. Long ago it was also known as Kajutsu, or Fire Techniques. In the era before the advent of gunpowder, tall wooden structures known as Ishi Hojiki, or Rock Hurlers, were erected. A large stone placed on top would be hurled at the enemy by a mechanism. These crossbow and catapult like devices that launched projectiles were used before gunpowder, however, following the development of gunpowder, rifles, cannons, trebuchets, Bo-hiya "fire arrows" and exploding cannonballs all came into use.

Top illustration: Fire arrow
Bottom Illustration: Exploding Cannonball Cannon

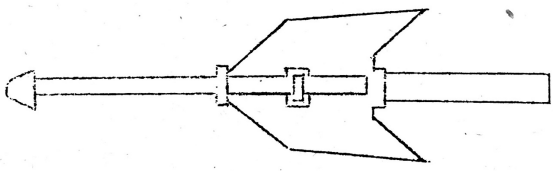


様になつたのである

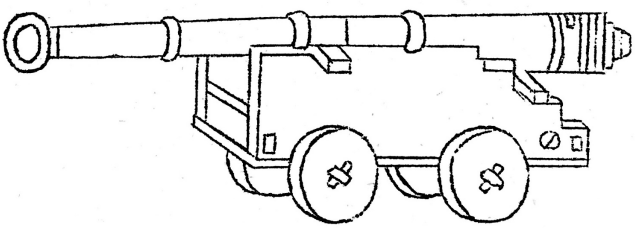
一般には　鉄砲　短筒等の類を発射する技を砲術と云ひ　大筒を発射したり石火矢　炮碌火　狼烟の類を扱ふ技を火術と云つた

因みに　砲術　火術は　後奈良天皇の天文十二年（西暦一五四三）年　ポルトガル人が　大隅之國種子ヶ島に漂着して　鉄砲を射つて見せたのを　時の島主　種子ヶ島時堯　その命中正確なるに驚き　これを購ひ　家臣に火薬の製法並鉄砲の製法等を學ばしたのがはじめである

火箭之図



石火矢之図



Typically, the art of firing matchlock rifles and hand cannons were referred to as Riflery, while larger cannons, cannons that launched exploding shells, shrapnel shells, smoke bombs and so fell under the category of Ka Jutsu or Fire Techniques. During the twelfth year of the reign of the Emperor Gonara, 2203 years after Emperor Jinmu acended to the throne or 1543 by the western calender, a Portuguese man washed ashore on the beaches of Tanegashima in Osumi Domain. This man demonstrated rifle shooting to the lord of the island. Lord Tanegashima Tokitaka (1528-1579) was so impressd with the accuracy of the Portugese guns that he ordered his retainers not only to learn how to shoot but also how to manufacture the weapons. This was the beginning of production of matchlocks in Japan.

Note: The sailor was actually a crewmember of a Chinese Junk with Portuguese sailors on board that was fleeing a storm. Tanegashima Tokitaka purchased two matchlocks from the Portuguese and had a swordsmith copy the guns. Illustration by Hokusai, "August 25th Tenbun 12 Washed ashore at Tanegashima in the Osumi Domain. (Showing the name of the Portuguese man)牟良叔舎喜利志多孟太 Francisco Christian Motta."

水泳術

水泳ぎの術　游泳術　水術　水練　水戯　泅術とも云ふ　小堀流では踏水術と　云つてゐる

游泳法には　平泳　横泳　立泳　脊泳の四法と飛込法　潜水法(等)がある

平泳ぎは　身体を水面に平に伏した形で泳ぐ法　横泳ぎは身体を横向にして泳ぐ法　立泳は立つた姿勢で泳ぐ法で曲泳などはこの泳法を用ひる　潜泳法は水中を潜つて進むもので　平泳　横泳などの應用である

往時　武術としての水術には　水弓術　水馬術　水槍術　水刀術　水柔術　水砲術等の諸術が行はれてゐた

速泳法は　今競技用として行はれてゐる

Swimming

Also known as Swimming Techniques, Standard Swimming, Techniques Using Water, Water Training, Water Tricks and Swimming Techniques (different Kanji). In the Kobori School it is called Tosui Jutsu, Standing Swimming Technique.

The Standard Swimming Methods include the four techniques Hira Ei (breast-stroke), Yoyo Ei (similar to crawl), Tachi Ei (standing/ upright style) Hai Ei (back stroke). There are also jumping into water techniques as well as methods for swimming underwater.

In Hira Ei method, swimmers keep their bodies parallel to the surface of the water as if they are laying down. Yoko Ei is similar except that the swimmers are on their sides. Tachi Ei is when you swim with the body upright. Kyoku Ei, or bending swimming, derives from this. Senei Ho is swimming underwater. Hira Ei as well as Yoko Ei are the most commonly utilized.

At times swimming is used in conjunction with other military techniques. For example, there is archery while in water, riding horses across water, using a spear in water, sword fighting in water, using Jujutsu in water and using matchlocks in water. Any martial arts technique can be combined with water. These days rapidly swimming is done as a competition.

Note: The word Ei can also be read Oyogi.

兵法

兵法とは　戦闘に関する一切の軍備　作戦　謀計　戦略　攻撃　防禦　兵器　弾薬　糧食　馬匹　車輛　醫療　陣営並軍兵の配置　戦場の進退駈引から軍律法規に至る迄　凡そ戦ひに必須なる條件事項は余す処なく微細にこれを講究し　敵と戦ひよく攻めよく守り　行く処敵を敗る攻防戦術や　敵の情勢如何によつてはあらゆる權謀術策を以て戦ひを有利に導き　戦はずして敵を降す謀略戦法等　軍學軍法　戦術を兵法と云ふ

昔　兵法は　軍禮　軍器　軍略　軍法　軍配に分け　軍禮は　出陣　凱施　首實験等の諸法式　軍器は　具足　軍配　鞭　指　旗　幕　母衣　軍貝　鐘　大鼓等の兵器武具の製法方式　軍略は　謀計　作戦　軍法は　陣営　隊伍の組方　兵器の配分　軍役諸役　軍配は　軍の駈引　戦争の指図　天文　地理　雲気　日取方角　呪術等　軍學一式を兵法と云つた　其他　築城　水軍戦法　船軍術等もあつた

Military Science

Heiho, or Military Science, is comprised of many subjects such as military preparedness, planning, intelligence, strategy, attack, defense, weapons, gunpowder, food, horses, carts and medicines to name just a few. The goal is understanding how the overall management of a war must be done. This includes not only the distribution of troops but also strategies for advancing or retreating as well as martial law. Everything required to fight a war must be taken into consideration and scrutinized without allowing a single detail to slip by. You must assault the enemy with all your might, while at the same time ensuring your defenses are robust. Your goal is to crush the enemy through a careful combination of attack and defense. You have to determine the number of enemy troops and where they are positioned. You must form a strategy based on the intelligence you have gathered and use this information to direct your approach. If possible, find a way to force the enemy to surrender without actually fighting. Military Science is also known as Military Strategy or the Art of Warfare.

昔 兵法は 軍禮 軍器 軍略 軍法 軍配に分け 軍禮は 出陣 凱旋 首實驗等の諸法式 軍器は 具足 軍配 鞭 指旗 幕 母衣 軍貝 鐘 大鼓等の兵器武具の製法方式 軍略は 謀計 作戦 軍法は 陣営 隊伍の組方 兵器の配分 軍役諸役 軍配は 軍の駈引 戦争の指図 天文 地理 雲気 日取方角 呪術等 軍學一式を兵法と云つた 其他 築城 水軍戦法 船軍術等もあつた

Long ago Heiho was divided into Ceremonies, Equipment, Intelligence, Allocation and Disbursement and Strategy.

- Ceremonies include Departure for the Front, Victory Parades, Displaying Heads, Tests for Advancement and all other such ceremonies.
- Equipment incudes Armor, Command Insignia, Whips, Footwear, Flags, Curtains, Horo (a kind of cape with whalebone inserts to protect against arrows), Conch Shell signaling trumpets, Bells and Drums.

A signal drum and a conch shell signaling trumpet from *Military Weapons: A Study Guide* by Matsuura Shigesaemon. 1690.

- The distribution and maintenance of the various weapons and equipment is also included under the topic of Equipment.
- The topic of Intelligence includes Intelligence and Strategy.
- Allocation and Disbursement involves the management of the forces, the formation of units and the distribution of weaponry and equipment, as well as assigning officers and commanders.
- Strategy covers the Plan of Action, Military Direction, Astronomy, Movement of the Clouds, Determining the Best Date, Determining the Best Direction, as well as Magic Ceremonies.

All of the above Military Strategy is included in Military Science. In addition subjects like Castle Building Methods, Naval Strategy and so on would be included.

How to display the head of a general taken in battle.
From *An Illustrated Manual of Military Accoutrements* by Arisawa Takezawa 1707.

How to attach tags to heads taken in battle. Top: The tag should be attached to the hair on the left side. Bottom: For the head of a warrior monk, the tag should be attached to the left year. The tag should list who the opponent was, his rank and the person who took the head.
From *An Illustrated Manual of Military Accoutrements* by Arisawa Takezawa 1707.

忍術

忍術には　志能便　志能比　隠忍術　隠形術　測隠術　窃盗術　窃刃術　陰術　忍物見　奪口　詭猿　三者　出抜　饗談　等の別名がある

密偵潜行を主とした術で　常に訓練練磨されたあらゆる手段方法を以て　敵に近付き　合法的理法を以て　敵に姿を現はさず　敵地　敵軍　敵陣　敵城中深く潜入し　敵の機密を探つたり　密書を奪取したり　間隙を窺つては　暗殺　放火

Ninjutsu

There are numerous names that mean the same thing as Ninjutsu.

Kanji	Reading	Meaning
志能便	Shinobi	Phonetically rendered with the Kanji Will-Ability-Opportunity
志能比	Shinobi	Phonetically rendered with the Kanji Will-Ability-Compare
隠忍術	Shinobi	Phonetically rendered with the Kanji Hidden-Enduring-Technique
隠形術	Ongyo Jutsu Inkyo Jutsu	Hidden-Shape-Techniques. Can be read two ways and implies magic.
測隠術	Shinobi	Irregular reading of this combination of Measure-Hidden-Techniques
竊盗術	Shinobi Jutsu	Steal-Steal-Techniques
陰術	Kagejutsu	Shadow Techniques
忍物見	Shinobi Monomi	A Ninja Scout
奪口	Dakko	Steal-Mouth
陰猿	In-en	Shadow Monkey
三者	Sansha	The Group of Three
出抜	Denuki	Exit and Remove
餐談	Kyodan	Dinner Conversation

Those that become proficient in Ninjutsu have trained continuously over a long period. They have refined their technique and are able to move in close to the enemy. This comprehensive method of espionage allows Ninja to conceal themselves from detection while infiltrating deep into the enemy territory, army, camp or castle. Once in place the Ninja will seek out secret information, steal secret documents and, if the opportunity or need presents itself, assassinate, set fires, demolish buildings or otherwise create distracting incidents.

破壊　其他大事を引起して　敵を混乱に陥し入れ　味方を誘導して　これを一挙　畧に討ち破る手段をとる術である

忍術には陽術と陰術とがある　陽術とは智略を以て其姿を顯はし乍ら敵中に入るを云ひ（これを顯形正体と云ふ）　陰術とは人の目を忍び姿を隠くして忍入るを云ふ（これを　隠形変体と云ふ）　この陽術を一名陽忍と云ひ　陰術を一名陰忍と云ふ

陽忍には遠入りの術と　近入りの術とがあり　遠入りの術とは　未だ戦はざる前にやがては戦はねばならぬ國に忍び入る方法を云ひ　近入りの術とは既に戦ひを交へた敵と對陣して居る時　陽忍の術を以て忍入る時の方法で　遠入りの術を以て隙て忍びを入れて置かなかつた場合　止むを得ず用ゆる方法である

遠入りの術には　始計術　柱男術　如影術　久ノ一術　里人術　身虫の術　螢火の術　狼籍術　天唾術　弛弓術　山彦術　等があり

近入りの術には　畧本術　迎入術　妖者術　参差術　水月術　谷入術　虚戻術　狼籍全術　等がある

陰忍には　城営忍の術と家忍の術とがある

Ninja can enter covertly, lead their allies in and in one deft move break the enemy. This is Ninjutsu.

Within Ninjutsu there is Yojutsu and Injutsu, representing the cosmic duality expressed by Yin and Yang. Yojutsu (Exposed Technique), represented by the sun, is a crafty technique that involves entering the enemy's territory overtly. This is also known as Kenkei Shotai, which means clearly showing your true form. Injutsu, Concealed Technique, represented by the moon, is the opposite of this. This method involves concealing your form from people and slipping into the enemy's territory. This is also known as Ongyo or Ingyo Seitai, which means obscuring your true form.

Another name for the Exposed Technique is Yonin, or Exposed Ninja. Another name for the Concealed Technique is In-nin, or Concealed Ninja.

The Exposed Ninja uses Entering From A Distance Techniques as well as Entering From Close In Techniques. Entering a country that your side is at odds with but not yet in a state of war is known as the Entering From A Distance Technique. Should fighting have already begun with an enemy nation then the Exposed Ninja technique of Entering from Close In is used. Generally the Entering From Close In Technique is used. However, if it proves impossible then the other is used. The method known as Entering From A Distance has numerous sub-categories. These are as follows.

Note: Fujita Seiko only listed the names of these techniques. The definitions used below are all from the Bansenshukai Ninjutsu manual.

Entering From A Distance

Kanji and Reading	Meaning
始計術 Shikei Jutsu	Gathering Preliminary Information
桂男術 Katsuraotoko Jutsu	"The Man in the Moon" is based on an old Chinese legend of Wu Gang. He is often depicted endlessly cutting down a self-healing tree on the Moon as a Sisyphean divine punishment. The technique is placing a Ninja in enemy territory during peacetime to gather intelligence.

Kanji and Reading	Meaning
如影術 Nyokage Jutsu	Similar to Man in the Moon Technique but includes measures to discover enemy Ninja.
久ノ一術 Kunoichi Jutsu	Using female Ninja or men dressed as women
里人術 Satobito Jutsu	Entering the enemy country and acting as a local to gather information
身虫術 Shinchu Jutsu	Convincing a local person in the enemy territory to spy for you. Literally, "A bug within the body"
螢火の術 Hotarubi no Jutsu	Light of the Firefly Technique. Distributing false "stolen secret messages" or allowing yourself to be captured and then "confessing" to something.
袋飜術 Fukurokaeshi Jutsu	Bag Turned Inside Out Technique - Pretending to be a traitor
天唾術 Tenda Jutsu	Spit From Heaven Technique. Finding an enemy Ninja in your midst but pretending not to notice thereby feeding false information.
弛弓術 Chiyumi Jutsu	Bending Like a Bow Technique. When captured by the enemy allowing yourself to be swayed to their side. Eventually you will "bend back" to your original shape.
山彦術 Yamabiko Jutsu	Mountain Echo Technique. Pretending to have a falling out with your side or be fleeing them after a betrayal. Seeking to enter the service of the enemy for protection while conducting espionage.

Techniques Associated with In-nin Entering From Close In (Chika-Iri)	
Kanji and Reading	Meaning
累本術 Ryakuhon Jutsu	Always be fully informed about the enemy before moving in. You should confirm things like the organization of their forces, names of important individuals, know the crests or symbols on the flags, their families, relatives and where they live and so on.
迎入術 Mukai-ire Jutsu	Determining where the opponent will move to and set a trap for them or destroy the place
妖者術 Yosha Jutsu	While the Kanji implies this is a ghost, it actually means a helpless person. Acting as a beggar or disabled person in order to infiltrate.
参差術 Katatagai Jutsu	Apparently the Kanji is normally 肩違 meaning when two people pass in a narrow space they bend their shoulders away from each other so both can pass. If you find out the enemy is planning a night attack you can use the fact their attention is focused on preparation to send in Ninja.
水月術 Suigetsu Jutsu	Just as the moon reflected in a pond is not the real moon, this technique involves feints and misdirection.
谷入術 Tani-iri Jutsu	Similar to Mountain Echo Technique, however, once inside you seek to find people who are dissatisfied and increase your numbers.
虜反術 Guhan Jutsu	Publicly tormenting a high level prisoner in order to cause disarray in the enemy
袋飜全術 Fukuro Kaeshi Zen Jutsu	Sending a message to a relative of the enemy, no matter how distant and then obtaining a reply. The reply may contain important information or the letter itself may be used.

城営忍の術とは　敵の城中陣中堡内に忍入る術を云ひ　家忍の術とは　敵の舘邸宅内に忍入る術を云ふ

城営忍には　先考術　入虚術　入墮歸術　着前術　魘入術　放火術　等があり

家忍の術には　陰景音術　陽中陰術　聴音聢術　見敵術　隠形術　遇犬術　放尻差術　放孤術　放竅術　穴蜘地蜘の術　其他　物見術　猜者術　等がある

其他　以上　陽術　陰術の外に　陽中陰術　陰中陽術　前陰後陽の術　始陽後陰の術と云ふのがある

Within In-nin Ninjutsu there is Castle and Camp Ninjutsu and House Ninjutsu. Castle and (Military) Camp Ninjutsu are techniques to slip unnoticed into the enemy castle, division or stronghold. House Ninjutsu refers to the technique of entering the manor or estate of the enemy.

Castle and Camp Ninjutsu:

Kanji and Reading	Meaning
先考術 Senko Jutsu	Ten topics to consider before launching an attack on an enemy castle or camp. This includes carefully researching the layout and positioning of enemy troops as well as how to place your troops.
入虚術 Nyukyo Jutsu	Twelve topics on clever strategies or feints to use when launching an attack.
入惰帰術 Iridaki Jutsu	How to take advantage of lackadaisical security
着前術 Chakuzen Jutsu	Placing an operative inside the enemy's camp before war. After the outbreak of hostilities the Ninja can cause all manner of mischief from within.
鬩入術 En-nyu Jutus	Using a distraction to gain entry to the enemy's castle. Attack one side of a castle drawing forces there. Meanwhile slip in to an area not as guarded.
放火術 Hoka Jutsu	Arson

House Ninjutsu

Kanji and Reading	Meaning
除景音術 Jokeion Jutsu	Eliminating all sounds and being aware of where you cast your shadow
陽中陰術 Yochuin Jutsu	Light within darkness, darkness within light technique. A good person doing something bad, a bad person doing something good. Any combination of Yoin and In-in Techniques.
聴音鼾術 Choonkan Jutsu	Being able to differentiate between a person who is sleeping and a person who is pretending to sleep.
見敵術 Miteki Jutsu	Using the scabbard to find an enemy in a dark room and then cutting down with your sword.
隠形術 Ongyo Jutsu	Escaping techniques.
遇犬術 Gukenjutsu	What to do when you encounter a dog.
放尻差術 Hoshirizashi Jutsu	Techniques that involve finding ways to remove the bar that holds windows or doors shut.
放枢術 Hotoboso Jutsu	Techniques that involve finding ways to remove the sliding wooden bolt that holds windows or doors shut.
放鑿術 Honomi Jutsu	Techniques to remove the chisel like peg holding windows or doors shut.
穴蜘地蛛術 Anakuchimo Jutsu	Ana is hole, Chi is earth and Kumo means spider. This technique which mixes all three words together means to infiltrate by digging a hole in the ground or a house.
物見術 Monomi Jutsu	The art of scouting.
捕者術 Hoja Jutsu	How to seize people.

In addition to Exposed Ninjutsu and Concealed Ninjutsu there are techniques that use parts from each or start as one and finish as the other. For example, there is a method that uses Exposed Ninjutsu as part of a Concealed Ninjutsu Technique, or using Concealed Ninjutsu as part of Exposed Ninjutsu. Another example is using Initially Concealed Ninjutsu After Exposed Ninjutsu and Initially Exposed Ninjutsu and After Concealed Ninjutsu.

Using Exposed Ninjutsu While Employing Concealed Ninjutsu Technique means to employ Yonin as part of In-nin. Using Concealed Ninjutsu as a part of Exposed Ninjutsu occurs when you enter using Concealed Ninjutsu but have been exposed. You then trick people into thinking you are out in the open somewhere using Exposed Ninjutsu, when in fact you are still concealing yourself.

Initially Concealed Ninjutsu After Exposed Ninjutsu means that you enter enemy territory under cover but then use Exposed Ninjutsu to continue your mission. The opposite of this is Initially Exposed Ninjutsu and After Concealed Ninjutsu. You enter the enemy's territory out in the open and later conceal yourself. The following methods are part of the Exposed Ninjutsu While Employing Concealed Ninjutsu technique.

陽中陰術とは　陽忍を利用して忍入る陰忍の法を云ひ　陰中陽術とは陰忍を以て忍入り人に知られる時陰忍のまゝ方便を以て人をあざむく術　前陰後陽術とは陰術を以て入り陽忍に変る術を云ひ　始陽後陰術とは　陽術を以て敵中に入り後　陰忍に変る術を云ふ

陽中陰術には　妖者術　差前術　双忍術　驚忍術　雨鳥の術　隠蓑術　隠笠術等があり　陰中陽術には　谷入術　逃止術　偽言術　偽言術　等がある

前陰後陽術　始陽後陰の術は以上の陽術　陰術　陽中陰術　陰中陽術を機に臨み　変に應して用ゆる方法で前掲諸術の應用術で其数は無限　したがつて其術名

Exposed Ninjutsu While Employing Concealed Ninjutsu

Kanji and Reading	Meaning
妖者術 Bakemono Jutsu	When the enemy is unaware, changing appearance and entering the enemy ranks to sew confusion.
着前術 Chakuzen Jutsu	Placing an operative inside the enemy's camp before war. After hostilities begin, the Ninja can cause all manner of mischief from within.
双忍術 Sonin Jutsu	Two or more Ninja working in conjunction.
驚忍術 Kyonin Jutsu	Causing a disturbance in order to create an opportunity.
雨鳥術 Ucho Jutsu	A technique that is the opposite of common practice.
隠蓑術 Kakure Mino Jutsu	Hiding inside a box or empty bale. Used as a method of last resort since you cannot escape.
隠笠術 Kakuregasa Jutsu	Hiding in a space as small as a straw hat.

陽中陰術とは　陽忍を利用して忍入る陰忍の法を云ひ　陰中陽術とは陰忍を以て忍入り人に知られる時陰忍のまゝ方便を以て人をあざむく術　前陰後陽術とは陰術を以て入り陽忍に変る術を云ひ　始陽後陰術とは　陽術を以て敵中に入り後　陰忍に変る術を云ふ

陽中陰術には　妖者術　着前術　双忍術　驚忍術　雨鳥の術　隠蓑術　隠笠術等があり　陰中陽術には　谷入術　逃止術　偽首術　偽言術　等がある

前陰後陽術　始陽後陰の術は以上の陽術　陰術　陽中陰術　陰中陽術を機に臨み　変に應じて用ゆる方法で前掲諸術の應用術で其数は無限　したがつて其術名

Concealed Ninjutsu While Employing Exposed Ninjutsu

Kanji and Reading	Meaning
谷入術 Tani-iri Jutsu	A small unit pretends to surrender to the enemy. Once within the enemy camp they try and convince others to join their side and wait for an opportunity to strike.
逃止術 Toshi Jutsu	Feinting escape when in fact you have stopped. Using the search for you as a chance to gain entry.
偏音術 Henon Jutsu	Making strange noises to confuse the enemy.
偏言術 Hengen Jutsu	Mimicking the voice of someone.

Both Initially Concealed Ninjutsu After Exposed Ninjutsu as well Initially Exposed Ninjutsu and After Concealed Ninjutsu can use any of the Concealed Ninjutsu, Exposed Ninjutsu or any combination of two as necessity dictates in order to complete a mission. There are limitless combinations of these and the name will change depending on what is used.

も其方策によつて異る

尚　隱形術には　觀音隱　鶉隱の法あり　敵に追討せられ身の危難を脱する時の法術として　狸退き　百雷銃退　蒺藜蒔退　木石卑下水拋術　草葉隱（要追手大音術）

珍事出來開閉門術　狸隱術　狐隱術　柴隱の術　木葉隱の術　草葉隱の術があり

門番　夜廻りの目をのがれる　楊枝隱　扇子隱　腕からみ　足からみの術　又不幸にして捕つた場合　それをかへつて利用し敵方を謀つて昏乱を起させる方策から　止むなき時の縄抜　脱檻の術　等がある

其他　風に乘るの傳　雲行の傳　蚤虱の傳　蜘蛛の傳　蚊蠅の傳　狐狼の傳　牛馬の傳　四足の傳　佛かくれ　神かくれ　丈かくれ　霞の傳　飛鳥の傳　霧礫の術　等々忍術所傳の方法を挙げれば　数かぎりない程あり　その法術を用ゆるれば　如何なる堅城　堅陣　堡　館　邸宅内と虽も容易に忍入ることの出來る法術である

異

The Ongyo Jutsu, Making Yourself Disappear Technique, includes both Kanon Kakure Jutsu (making the body as still and silent as a statue) and Uzura Jutsu (making the body as still as a quail hiding.) In addition, in order to escape pursuers intent on cutting you down you can use a very loud shout and then employ one of the following methods to escape:

Kanji and Reading	Meaning
狸退 Tanuki Shirizoki	Moving like a sly fox or raccoon. When your pursuer is virtually on top of you, drop flat on the ground causing them to stumble over you.
百雷銃退 Hyakurai Zutsu Shirizoki	Firing a Hundred Thunderbolt Gun Escape. The Hundred Thunderbolt Gun is actually a set of firecrackers that sound like gun shots when set off. Use the sound to distract the enemy and escape.
菱蕩蒔退 Hishimaki Shirizoki	Throwing caltrops behind you to slow pursuers.
木石卑下水の術 Kisekihigesui no Jutsu	Using anything to cause a distraction. Wood, stone, soil or water.
草葉隠 Soha Kakure	Hiding amongst grasses or leaves.
珍事出来開閉門 Chinji Juttai Kaihei Mon Jutsu	Using only the force of persuasion to talk the gate guards into letting you pass and having them close the gate after you.

Kanji and Reading	Meaning
狐隠術 Kitsune Kakure Jutsu	Jumping into a pool of water and eliminating any sense of your presence just as a fox leaps into water to eliminate its scent.
柴隠の術 Shiba Kakure no Jutsu	Hiding yourself amongst brushwood.
木葉隠の術 Kiha Kakure no Jutsu	Hiding amongst trees.

In order to avoid the eyes of gatekeepers and the night watch the following techniques are used:

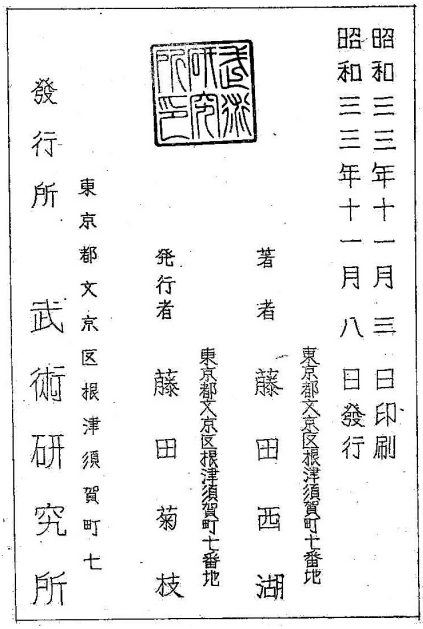
Kanji and Reading	Meaning
楊枝隠 Yoji Kakure	Throwing a small stone or stick in order to draw attention away from you.
扇子隠 Ogi Kakure	Putting a powdered medicine into your folding fan and blowing it or fanning in into someone's face.
腕からみ Ude Karami	Wrapping up the opponent's arm in a joint lock.
足からみ Ashi Karami	Wrapping up the opponent's leg in a joint lock.

In case you are unlucky enough to be captured and you need to fool the opponent or cause a disturbance in order to escape, there are techniques like Nawanuki, escaping rope, and Datsuori, prison breaking, and so on.

In addition there are legendary techniques such as Riding the Wind, Riding the Clouds, Lice, Spider, Gnats, Fox-Wolf (cheating and cunning), Cow and Horse, Four Legged, Hidden Buddha, Spirited Away, Hidden Dog, Mist, Flying Bird and Misty Rock Technique.

There are a many other Ninjutsu techniques and methods I could name here, but the list is nearly endless. If used properly Ninjutsu will allow you to easily enter or exit any castle, stronghold, enemy camp, manor or dwelling.

The Eighteen Weapons of War
End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Regarding Hirayama Gyozo

Hirayama Gyozo (1759 – 1828) started every morning by spinning a 7 Shaku (210 centimeter) staff 500 times. He then practiced Iai, sword drawing, two or three hundred times.

Illustration on previous page and this page by Uekusa Minoru from the book *Hirayama Gyozo: An Edo Swordmaster.* By Aoyanagi Takeaki. 1943.

第九章　實戰的武道家、平山行藏

武道は實戰を理想とすることはいふまでもない、然れども武道の稽古は、とかく道場の稽古に陷り易い傾向をもつものである。例へば稽古は上手だが實戰は別物だとか、或は竹刀擊劍は巧妙を極めるが、眞劍の實戰は拙いとか、或は戊辰戰役に於ても、劍術師匠が戰場に於て、無名の勇士に、脆くも負けたなどといふ話は、屢〻聞くところである。太平が續いて、實戰の氣分が遠くなつて來ると、武道の稽古が、いづれも「華法」に流れて仕舞うのである。江戸時代、中世以後、武道の稽古は、すべて華法の世の中となつた。抑〻、武道の稽古は、其儘、直ぐに實戰に活用すべきものならざる可らず。此に於て、平山行藏崛起して、武道の眞意義を發揚し、狂瀾を既倒に回さんとして、躬行實踐、以て實戰的武道を鼓吹した。實に豪傑の士といふべきである。幕末、わが武道の振興は、國家、內外未曾有の難局に當り、氣運の促がすところであるが、內には平山が鼓舞作興の功、與かつて力あるものと見なければならぬ。よつて、玆に、特に平山行藏の一章を設ける所以である。

Regarding Hirayama Gyozo: A Martial Artist Devoted to *Jissen Budo*, Battlefield Martial Arts

It is essential that you consider Budo to be something to be used on the field of battle. However, when training at a dojo there is a tendency for the style of training to slip into "training that only works in the Dojo."

For example, a person may be quite adept in the training hall but find themselves at a loss in a real battle. Another example is the practitioner who is sharp and subtle with a Shinai (bamboo sword) when doing practice fencing in armor (Gekiken) but blunders when a real sword has been placed in his hands in battle. During the Boshin War there was even the case of a renowned sword master and instructor being utterly and completely overwhelmed by an entirely average swordsman. There are many stories like this.

As this time of peace continues and any sense of impending battle ebbs away the pace of training in the Dojo tends to drift towards Kaho Kenpo. Kaho Kenpo is "Sword fighting like flower arranging." In peaceful times the style of sword fighting moves away from practical techniques for the purpose of killing and instead shifts to elaborate, artistic or even playful techniques. Interactions with other schools ends, interschool bouts are forbidden and the school as a whole becomes insular. From the mid-Edo Era almost all Keiko, or training in martial arts, shifted to Kaho Kenpo.

The underlying principle of Keiko is to ready yourself for battle, therefore you should be able to employ the techniques you learn in the Dojo directly on the battlefield. Into this morass came Hirayama Gyozo. He elevated the true meaning of martial arts through sheer force of will. It seemed that everything around him would be subsumed by the wave he created. Hirayama singlehandedly brought back *Jissen Budo*, practical battlefield martial arts. The simplest way to describe Hirayama Gyozen is he was the quintessential Samurai.

At the end of the Edo Era, when Japanese military arts were flourishing, our country overcame many trials great and small and once in a lifetime difficulties both from within and abroad. When reflecting on this era, it is impossible to ignore the effect of Hirayama's inspiration and the relentless way he promoted it.

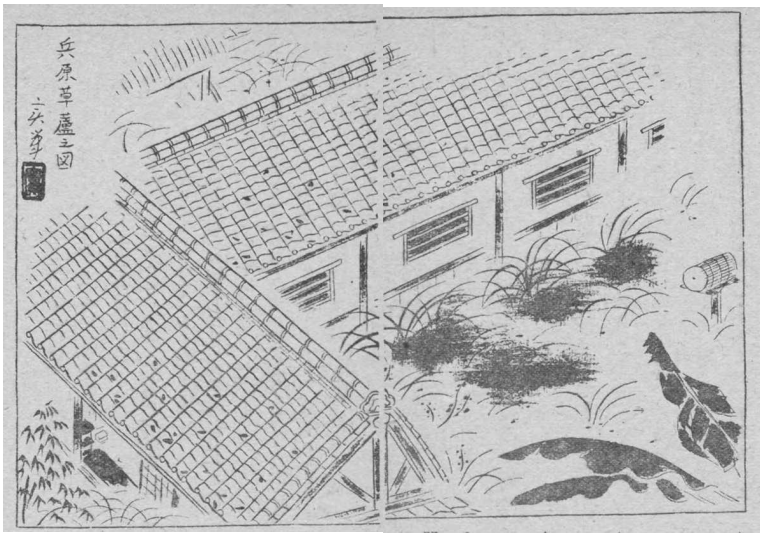

Illustration of Hirayama Gyozo's overgrown garden. The inside of his Dojo was the exact opposite, which was thoroughly cleaned by his students daily. Illustration by Uekusa Minoru from the book *Hirayama Gyozo: An Edo Swordmaster.* By Aoyanagi Takeaki. 1943.

The Rules of Hirayama Gyozo's Hermitage

To say that Hirayama ran a tight ship would be an understatement if there ever was one. As proof here are the rules posted outside his Dojo. This is a reproduction of Hiryama's Dojo rules from *History of Japanese Martial Arts* by Yokoyama Kendo. 1943.

Hirayama taught martial arts as well as military strategy and Confucianism. The practical and the theoretical classrooms were kept separate. The martial arts Dojo was called 演武場 Enbujo, the Demonstration Hall, and the place he taught military strategy and Confucius philosophy was the 兵聖閣 Heiseikaku, Tower of the Spirit Warrior.

The complex as a whole was called 韜略書院 Toryaku Shoin, The Institution for Strategic Learning.

Yokoyama calls these *The Rules of Heibara's Hermitage.*

兵原草廬規則書

諭

始メテ謁見ヲ行フ者ハ、豫メ紹介ヲ以テ其姓名ヲ通ジ、而シテ後相見ス、或ハ唐突、門ニ踵ル者ハ之ヲ謝絶ス。

禀

一、受業ノ子弟、堂ニ上ツテ先生ヲ拝シ、寒暑語畢ツテ、次ニ生徒ヲ拝ス、只粛整ヲ要ス、和ニ流レテ言笑妄ニスルコト勿レ、

一、威儀ハ厳猛ヲ貴、席ニ就テ正座ス、腰背ヲ端直ニシ、腹肚ニ力ヲ入レ、兩手膝上ニ放在シ、肘臂外ニ向テ張ランコトヲ欲ス、是亦勇武ヲ養フノ一端也、

- Those wishing to begin training must join at the invite of a current student. Without such an invitation, any person arriving alone will be refused.
- Any student departing the Dojo must first exchange a departing greeting with Sensei. Following this, the student must then offer a departing greeting to his fellow students. However, this should never be an excuse for idle talk.
- When seated, students should always maintain proper posture. Power should be in your lower abdomen with your elbows at your sides and your hands on your knees. If your posture is poor, your sprit will also fall out of proper alignment.

一、請業及先生ニ向テ言ヲ交ルニ至テハ、手ヲ將テ膝下ノ兩方ニ置キ、恭敬ナルコトヲ要ス、是亦古者業ヲ請ヒ起ツノ道ナリ、時ニ紀聞ヲナス者ハ此限ニアラズ、

一、一意講ヲ聽ク時、他ノ旁聽スル者、已カ了解セザルトコロヲ以テ、唐突トシテ質問スルコトヲ許サズ、講畢ツテ更ニ請コトハ禁限ニアラズ、

一、若學年ヲ積返講業ヲ終ヘ、出師以上ノ諸篇ニ及ブモノハ、入室ノ弟子ナリ、其地位ニ至ラザルモノ、席ニ同ジテ共講ヲ許サズ、

一、講學階級アリ、授業差等アリ、等ヲ越エ級ヲ凌デ、敢テ漫リニ質問スル者ハ答ヘズ、切ニ記セヨ々々、

一、一切國政ノ得失、官吏ノ淑匿心ヲ論ズルコトヲ禁ズ、

一、天下ノ形勢、城堡ノ利害ヲ議スルコトヲ許サズ、

一、不遜倨傲、禮容ヲ失スルモノ、席ニツクコトヲ許サズ、

右件々知道シ了ツテ、規則ヲ失錯スルコト勿レ、若シ誤達スルモノハ塾法借サズ、諸霊論諦セヨ、」

禀

一、頭巾足袋無用、

但シ痛所有之候而用候ハ不苦、

一、辨當無用、柳行李相用可申候、尤煎物等携候事禁斷、

- Amongst the students there are those that have long studied and those that are new. The difference will be readily apparent. Students are expected to focus all their attention on the lesson being taught. If newer students inquire as to when something or other will be taught, older students should never respond.
- Bushi do not concern themselves with whether this political position is better than the other or if this policy is better than that.
- Discussion of current affairs as well as the military situation in various parts of Japan is not permitted.
- Those without good manners will not be allowed to participate in lessons.
- You are not allowed to wear Tabi (Japanese indoor shoes.) You are not allowed to wear a head cloth. An exception will be granted to anyone who is injured or sick.
- If you bring a Bento (lunch box) only simple foods are allowed. Elaborate side dishes and stewed foods are forbidden.

一、烟竹無用

一、稽古中、雑談致間數事

右之條々堅可相守候、

禀

一、門弟子會合、稽古場ニ限リ可申事、

但シ同僚級前ニヨリ朋友タルモノハ此限ニアラズ

一、神社佛閣爲ニ參詣ニ、或爲ニ遊山ニ、濫水相進ニ致ニ誘引同道ニ候事可レ爲ニ無用ニ、

但シ譯合有之候而、自ニ此方ニ致ニ聽許ニハ制外之事、

一、同門中、格別ニ心易候共、相進ニ金銀致ニ借用ニ候義、決テ致處事、

武器書籍借用儀ハ可レ準レ之、但此方エ申聞候テ、自レ此借受遣候事ハ不レ苦、同門中ニテ如何樣ノ手輕キ品ニテモ、互ニ貰請、或ハ贈リ與候事禁斷。

- No smoking.
- Do not talk about anything other than the business of training during training.
- Students are not permitted to gather in any place outside of the Dojo. However students are permitted to meet with people not associated with the Dojo.
- Inviting other students to leave the Dojo for no particular reason is forbidden. When departing, each student must individually offer a departing greeting and explanation.
- No matter how friendly you may be with another student, it is forbidden to lend or borrow money. This applies to books and weapons as well.

However, if I personally request that you lend something to a person it is permissible. Also, no matter how small the item, lending or giving anything away is forbidden.

In addition to this he also had signs that said:

他流試合勝手次第。飛び道具其外矢玉にも不苦

Challenges by other schools accepted at any time. Thrown weapons or any sort of projectile weapon also welcome.